BERSERK

9

三浦建太郎

KENTARO MIURA

ベルセルク

BERSERK ⑨

BY

KENTARO MIURA

三浦建太郎

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BERSERK

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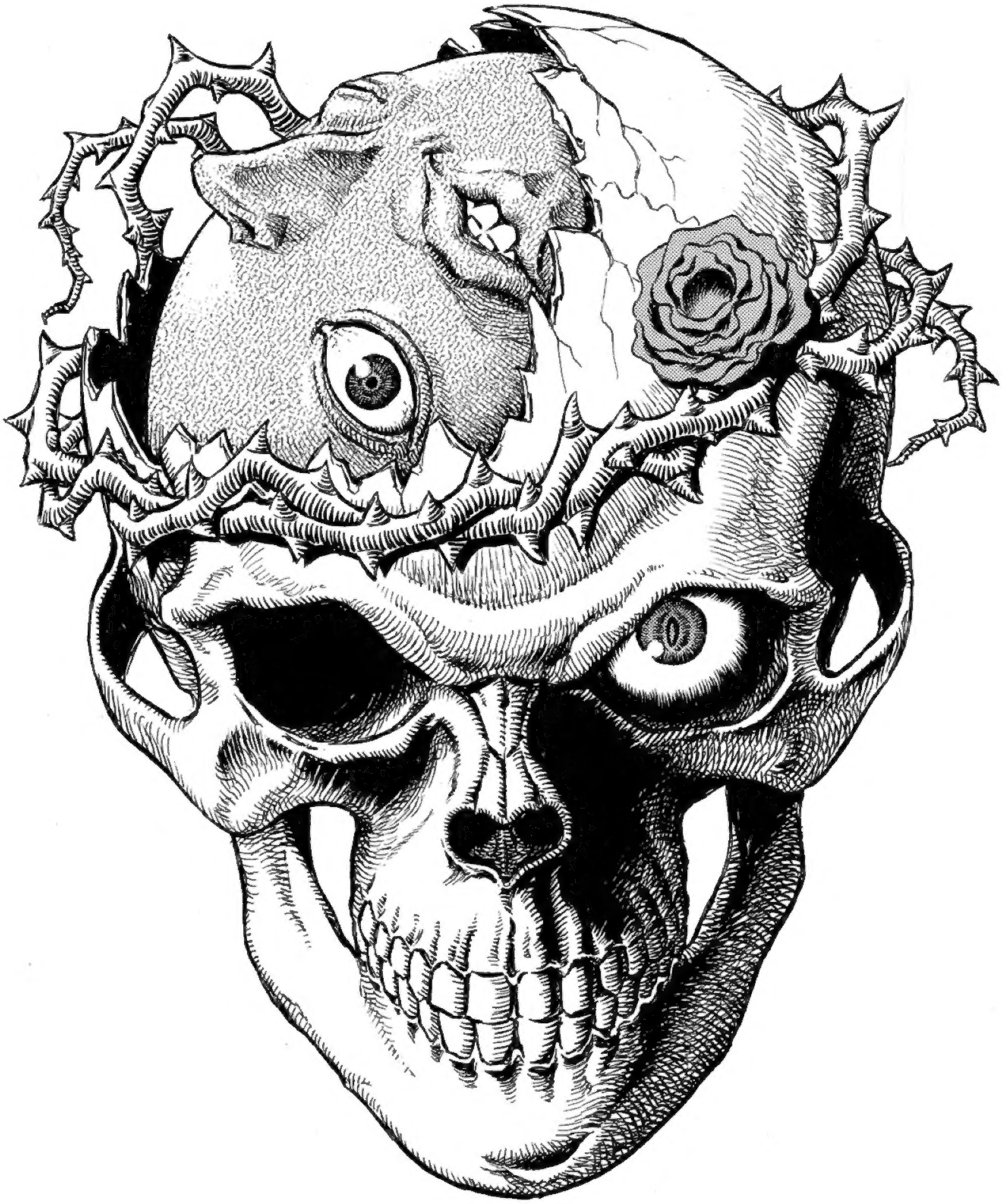
髑髏（どくろ）の騎士



ベルセルク

KNIGHT OF SKELETON

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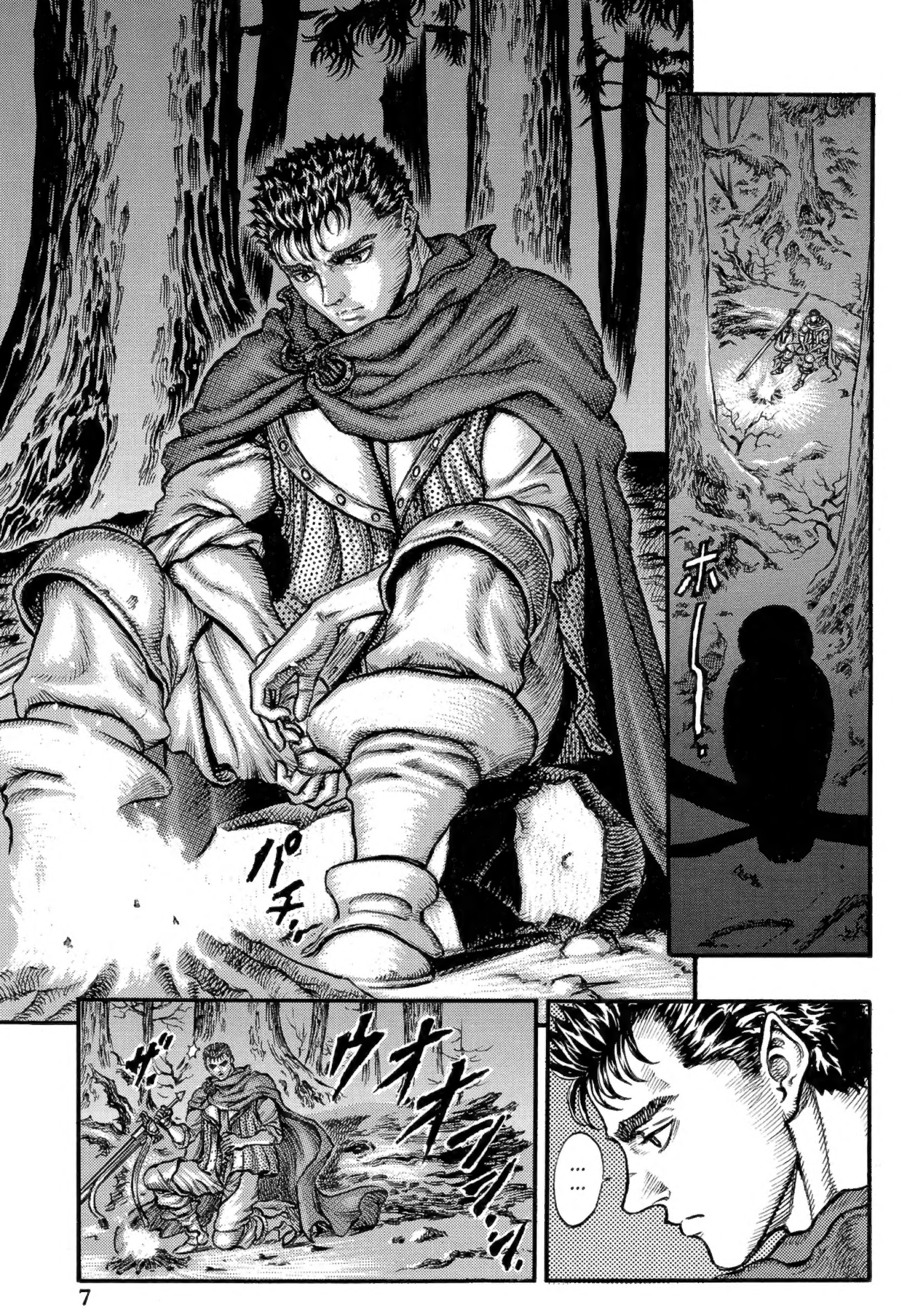
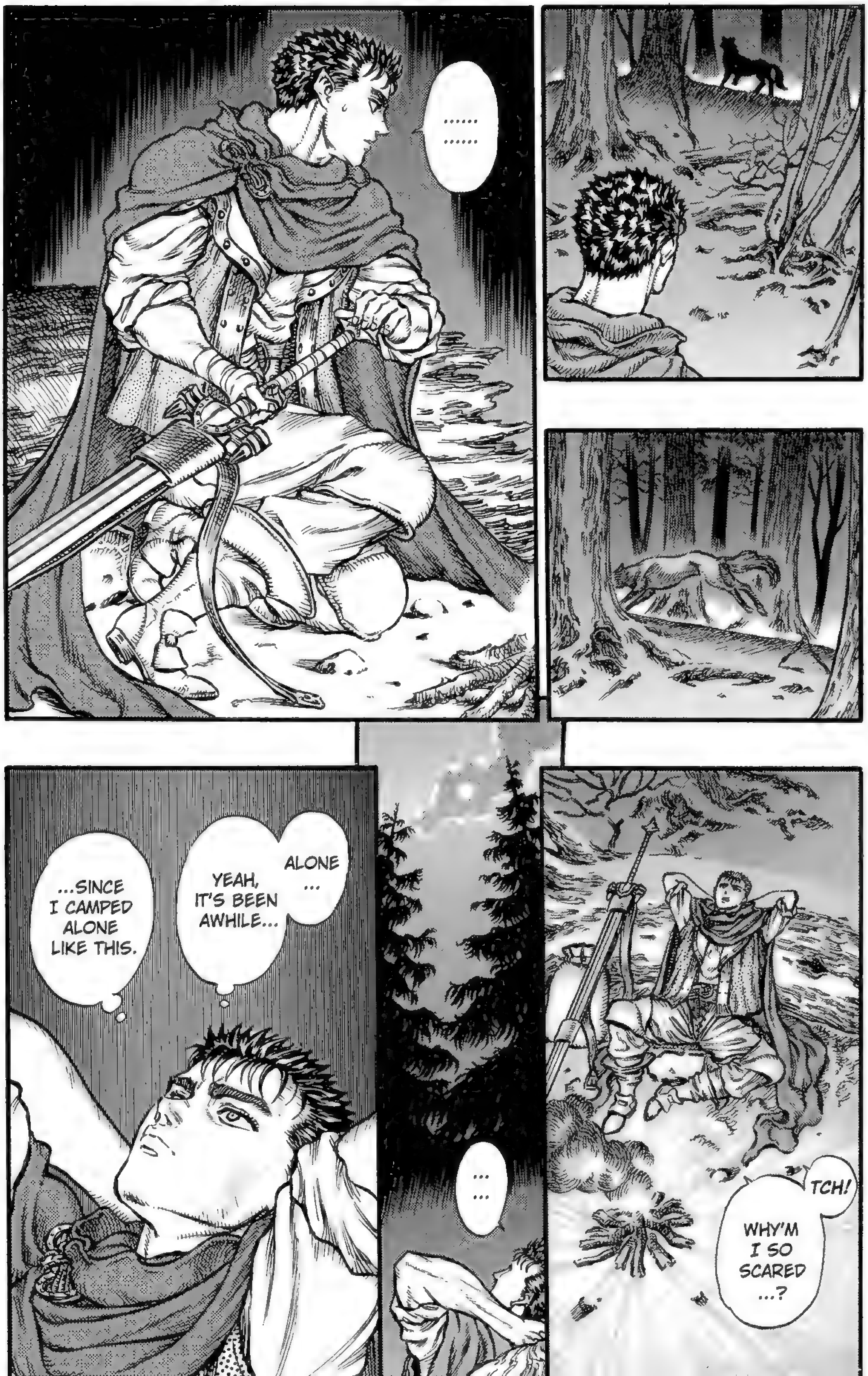
ホー！


ホー…
パチッ
……
ウオオオン…
ザッ


……
……
TCH!
WHY'M I SO SCARED …?
…
…
ALONE …
YEAH, IT'S BEEN AWHILE…
…SINCE I CAMPED ALONE LIKE THIS.

WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT...
...I HAVEN'T BEEN TRULY ALONE ONCE THESE THREE YEARS.
I'D FORGOTTEN...
...THAT THE NIGHT WAS THIS VAST, THIS DEEP...
I'D FOR-GOTTEN.
THIS SENSE OF UNEASE UNLESS MY SWORD'S RIGHT NEXT TO ME...
OF COURSE, I COULD'VE AVOIDED NIGHTS LIKE THIS BACK THEN...
I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT TO TRY.
ホ!
ホ!

...MAYBE I'M ONCE AGAIN...
...TRYIN' TO THROW AWAY SOMETHING...
...IRREPLACEABLE THAT I'LL NEVER HAVE AGAIN?
TO BE HONEST...
...AS LONG AS I CAN FEEL WARM...
...ISN'T THAT GOOD ENOUGH?
AM I TRYING TO LET GO...
...OF AN IRREPLACEABLE TODAY FOR SOME VAGUE TOMORROW I MIGHT NEVER FIND...IF IT EVEN EXISTS...?
EVEN WITHOUT SOME BIG, EXAGGERATED DREAM...
...PEOPLE GO ON LIVING.

IN THE FIRST PLACE, I GOT THIS...
...IDEA IN MY HEAD FROM HEARING GRIFFITH'S WORDS. IF I HADN'T...
SO...
...CAN I SAY I'VE SET OUT BY MY OWN WILL?
AFTER ALL...
I...
YOU CAN...
...NEVER BECOME GRIFFITH.
THAT'S NOT TODAY ANYMORE.
IT'S YESTERDAY.

ゴオオオ オオオオ
ゾワァアァアアアァ…
バッ!!

オオオオ--オ--
……
……
WHAT WAS THAT...
...THAT BLOODTHIRSTINESS?!
A BEAST?!
NO...
I REMEMBER THIS!!
THIS IS...
...THIS SAVAGERY THAT FEELS LIKE IT CLINGS...
COULD IT BE...?!

オオオオ
オーーーン…
ムウウ
ウウウ..
IT BLINDSIDED ME...
...THAT EASILY...?!
I COULDN'T EVEN REACT!!
I CAN'T MOVE ...
ゴクッ
IF I MOVE ...
...THAT'S WHEN...

I'LL BE KILLED !!

?!
ザク
ザク
ヴァアアアアアア
オ…オ…
オオ…
オオオ
オオオ

I'VE NEVER MISREAD AN ENEMY'S PRESENCE ONCE!! I COULD'VE SWORN HE WAS TRYING TO BRING HIS SWORD DOWN ON ME!
I'M SURE HE WAS RIGHT BEHIND ME!!
IMPOSSIBLE...!!
ZODD?!
NO, IT'S NOT...
...BUT THIS...
...THIS WEIRD, UNREAL FEELING...!!
SO THE GEARS HAVE *INDEED* BEGUN TURNING.
YOU, STRUGGLER.
TAKE HEED.
GEARS?!
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?!
STRUGGLER?

ONE YEAR HENCE SHALL BE THE TIME OF THE ECLIPSE!!
YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS!! THOSE YET UNSEEN OF THE *FLESHLESS FLESH!!* AND THAT UNKINGLY HALF OF YOURS SHALL ALL BE GATHERED THEN IN THAT PLACE!!
A TORRENT OF MADNESS, A TEMPEST OF DEATH FOR WHICH THE HUMAN BODY COULD NEVER ATONE, SHALL SWEEP OVER YOU!!
BUT TAKE HEED, STRUGGLER!!
YOU WERE BORN FROM A CORPSE AND BEGAN YOUR LIFE FROM *DEATH* IN THE *MUD!!*
YOU ARE CLOSER TO DEATH THAN ANYONE. THUS YOU EXCEL IN ESCAPING IT!!
WHO IS THIS?!

STRUGGLE, CONTEND, WRIGGLE!!
THAT ALONE IS THE SWORD OF ONE WHO CONFRONTS DEATH!!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
NEVER FORGET THIS!!
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME...?!
IN THE ABYSS OF DESPAIR ...
ONLY HE WHO STANDS UP WITH BROKEN SWORD IN HAND...
PER-HAPS...
... ...
ゴォォォォォォ...
... ...
W-WAIT ...!!
ザッ

THE KNIGHT OF SKELETON ...
AN ILLUSION ...?!
...NO.

NOW THE SNOW WILL MELT...
PLEASE HURRY TO BED, YOUR HIGHNESS. YOU WILL CATCH COLD.
YES... YOU ARE DISMISSED FOR THE DAY.
HER HIGHNESS SEEMS DEPRESSED.
THAT SHE DOES.
LORD JULIUS, LORD ADONIS, AND EVEN HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN HAVE ALL DIED IN SUCCESSION.
I'D BE GLOOMY TOO IF I LOST THREE RELATIVES IN A ROW.
フゥ?
BUT LORD JULIUS AND LORD ADONIS ASIDE...HER HIGHNESS DISLIKED HER MAJESTY SO MUCH...
DON'T BE FOOLISH.
SO MUCH THE MORE BECAUSE THEY WERE, AFTER ALL, PARENT AND CHILD.

コン
コン
THADUMP
?
カッ
EH...
EH?!
ゲゲ
ゲリ、ゲリ、ゲリ。
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
IT- IT- IT- IT'S NOTHING!! GO, GO!!
ひっ!
......
......
ススス...
LORD GRIFFITH?!
WH-WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING?! IN THE RAIN... AND AT THIS HOUR...?!
GOOD EVENING, PRINCESS CHARLOTTE.

IT WOULD CAUSE A *TERRIBLE* UPROAR IF IT WERE KNOWN THAT A GENTLEMAN HAD ENTERED THE PALACE ALONE THIS LATE!!
IF ANYONE WERE TO SEE YOU ...!!
IF SOMEONE WERE TO SEE ME NOW, IT WOULD INFLICT DAMAGE UPON YOUR HONOR.
THEREFORE, IF HER HIGHNESS DOESN'T OBJECT, WOULD SHE PERMIT ME TO ENTER HER ROOM?
BESIDES, IT'S RATHER DIFFICULT TO KEEP ONE'S BALANCE OUT HERE.
EH.
YES.
OF COURSE, COME IN.
YOUR PARDON.
......
FORGIVE ME.
FOR DRIPPING SO MUCH WATER INTO A LADY'S CHAMBERS ...
AND FOR MY IMPOLITENESS IN VISITING SO LATE.

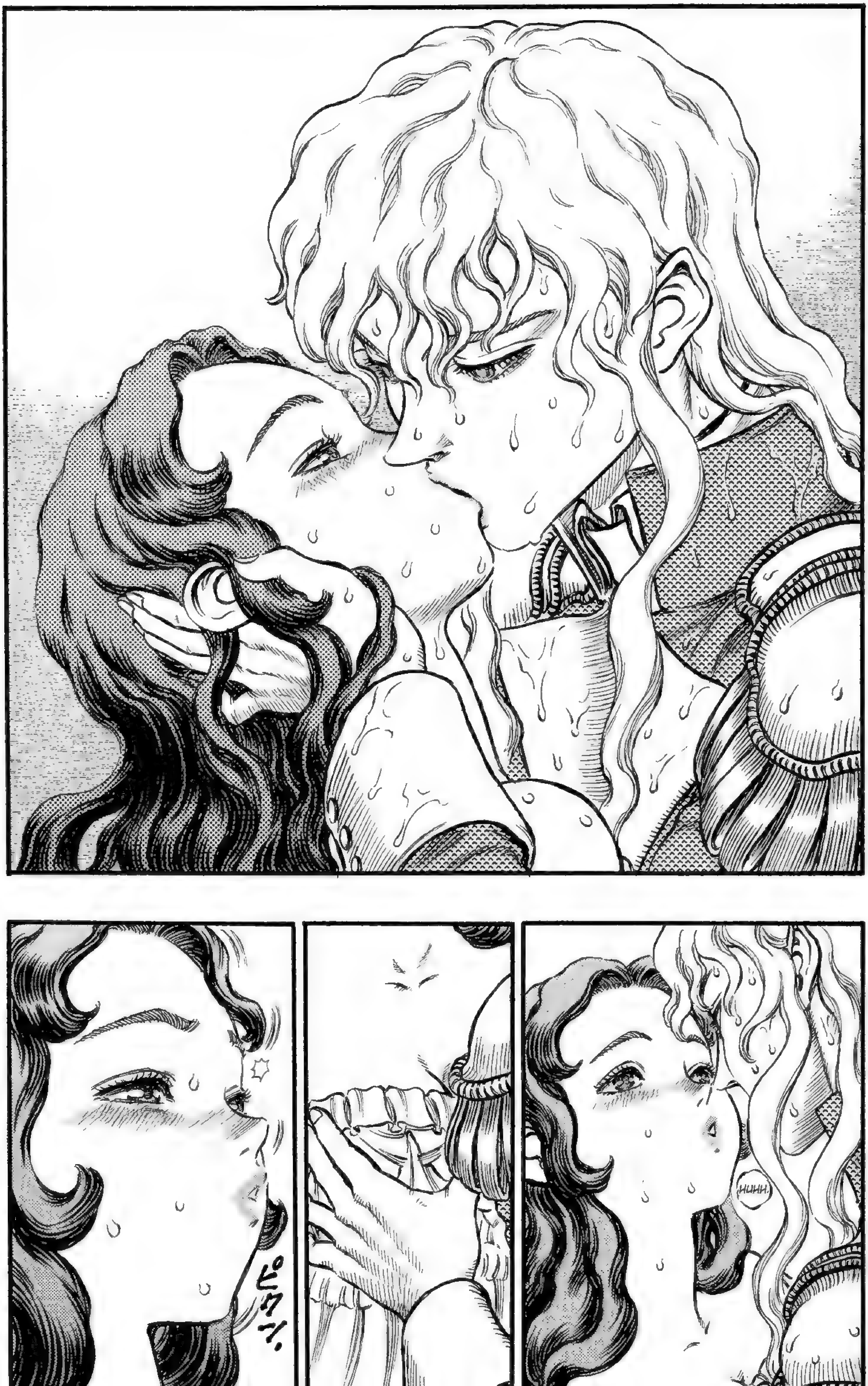
……
……
I'VE MISSED YOU...
SINCE THAT DAY ...
...HALF A YEAR AGO.
EVER SINCE WE PARTED THAT MORNING YOU WENT TO WAR...
I'VE BEEN SO... SO *SCARED* EVER SINCE THAT DAY YOU LEFT...
I'D WAKE UP SO MANY TIMES BREATHLESS FROM NIGHTMARES...THAT YOU HAD DIED ON THE BATTLEFIELD...
AND THEN ONCE YOU CAME BACK SAFELY, THAT DREADFUL THING HAPPENED AT THE VICTORY BALL...
I PASSED OUT. WHEN I WOKE UP, THEN IT WAS MY STEPMOTHER WHO...I NEVER DID MANAGE TO COME TO TERMS WITH HER...!! I DIDN'T EVEN *TRY*!!
NOTHING BUT FRIGHTENING AND SAD THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.
I'VE BEEN SO ALONE ...
WHY ...
WHY DIDN'T YOU *COME*... COME TO SEE ME *SOONER* THAN THIS?!

KNIGHT OF SKELETON: END

START OF THE EVERLASTING NIGHT

ベルセルク
果てしなき夜の始まり

N...
!?
...!
UHN...


HUHH.
ピクッ!

N--
NO...
ドザッ

THUMP
THUMP
ARE YOU AFRAID?
THUMP
THUMP
TAKE ALL THE FRIGHTENING AND SAD THINGS...
...AND CAST THEM INTO THE FIRE.

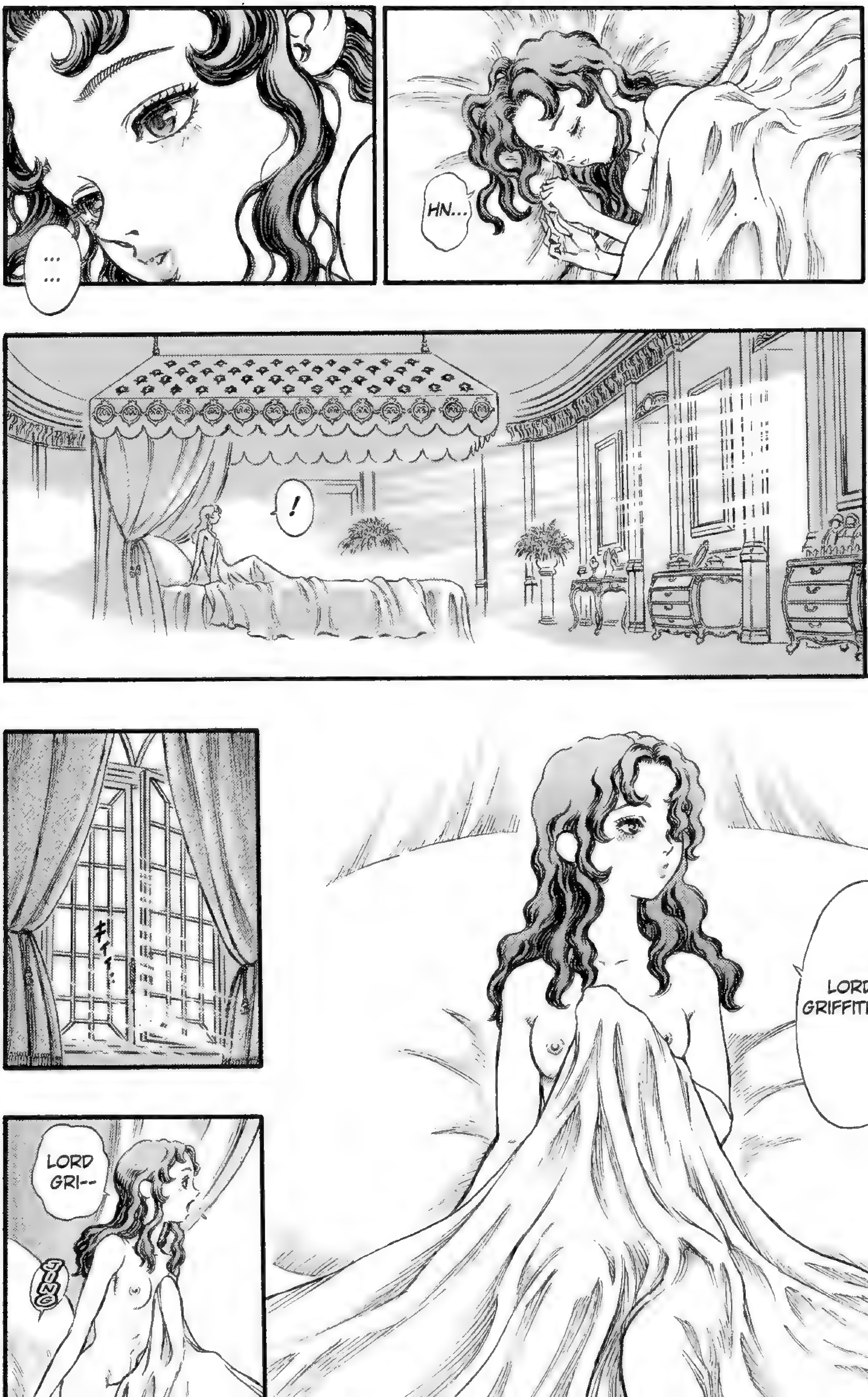
IT SURE IS RAINING.
HAVE YOU GUYS SEEN GRIFFITH?
A FLUKE, I TELL YA, A FLUKE! I SHAY NO GOOD!
NOPE...I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE WHAT HAPPENED TODAY...
IZHN'T THAT RIGHT? SHAY IT'S SHO, LITTLE RICKER-RRRRT.
......
......

キュ…

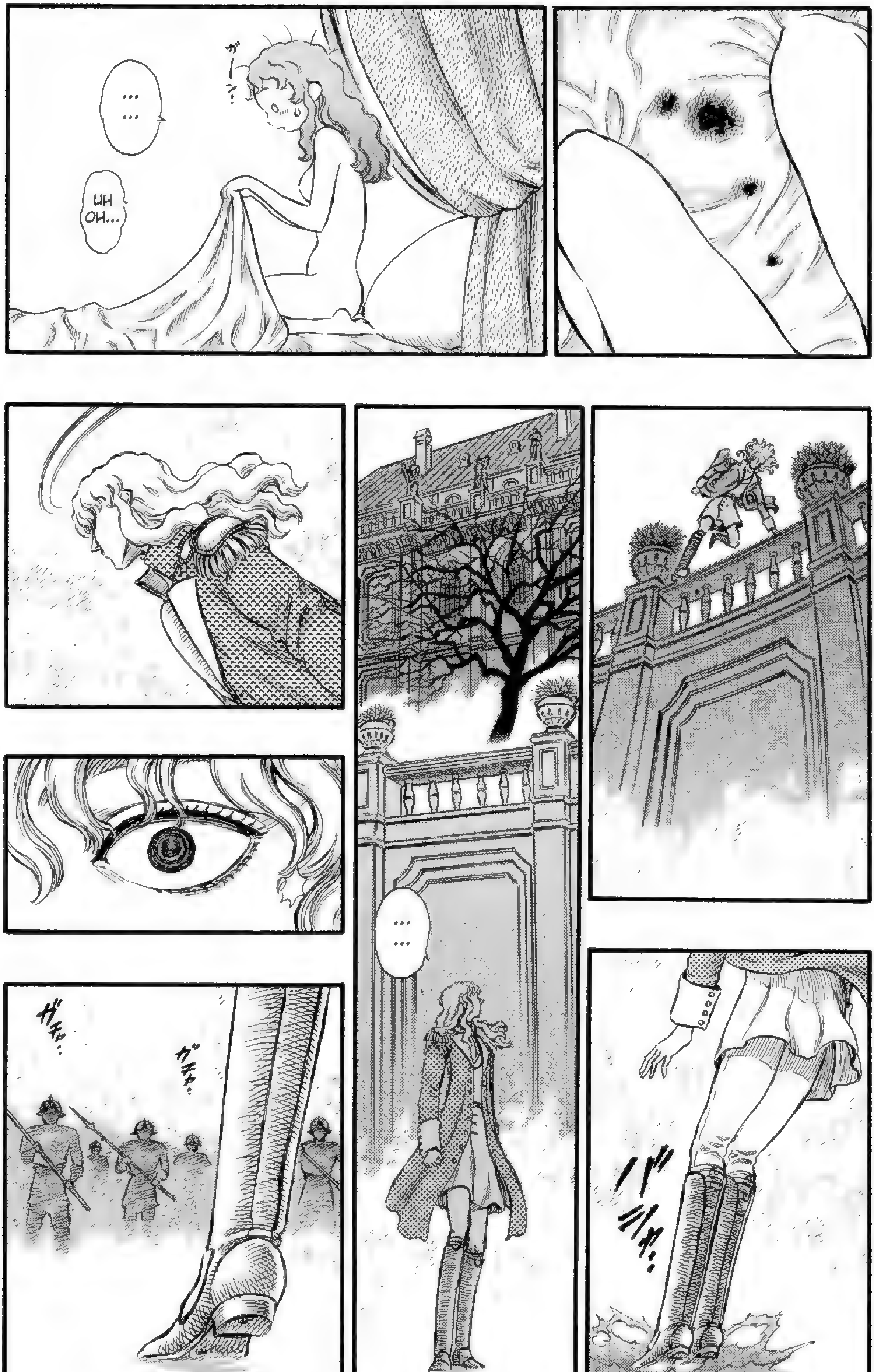
YOU BELIEVE THAT, DON'T YOU?

AH
TAKE CARE.
HAH
AH
NN...

!
ギシ
ギシ


HN...
… …
!
LORD GRIFFITH...?
キィィ…
LORD GRI--
JING

…
…
OW
…
!


ガーン!?
……
……
UH OH...
……
……
ガチャ
ガチャ
バシャッ

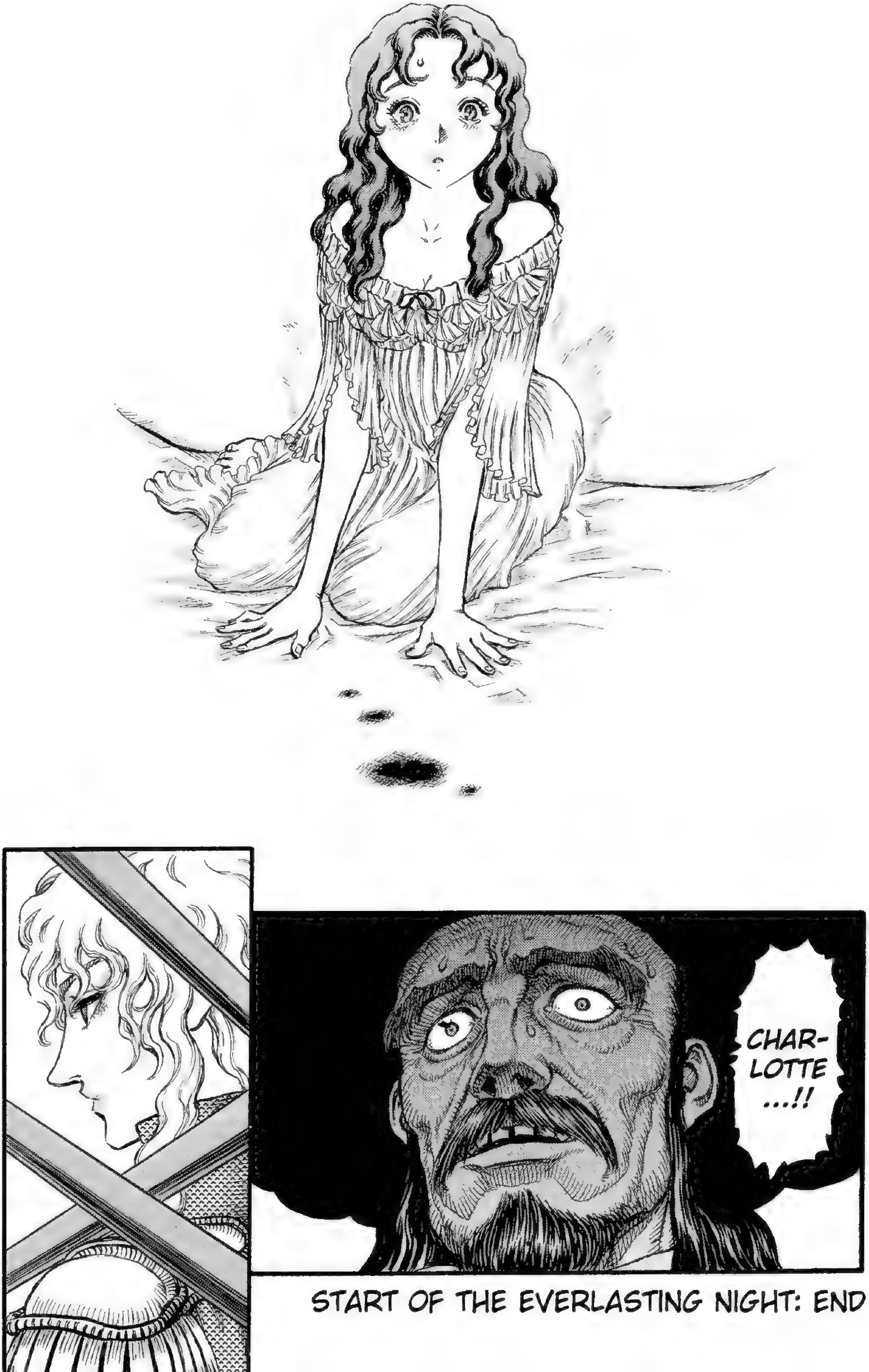
ザシャアアアアッ

WELL, WELL... IF IT ISN'T HIS EXCELLENCY, THE FUTURE WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL.
ガチャ.
WHY ON EARTH IS THE WHITE HAWK...
...SNEAKING OUT OF THE PALACE AT THIS HOUR...?
... ...
...RIGHT, MY SWORD...
CIRCUMSTANCES PENDING, YOU MAY HAVE COMMITTED TREASON AGAINST MIDLAND'S ROYAL HOUSE.
NO DOUBT THE DETAILS WILL BE DETERMINED WITHOUT HASTE LATER.
ガキィイン.
TAKE HIM AWAY!!

……
……
I BEG YOU... WAIT, YOUR MAJESTY!
IN ANY CASE, THIS IS THE WORD OF AN INEXPERIENCED COURT LADY! PERHAPS SHE MISTOOK WHAT SHE SAW IN THE DARK!
TO SUSPECT HER HIGHNESS BASED ON THAT...
SILENCE!!
!
FATHER.

WH- WHATEVER IS THE MATTER? COMING HERE SO EARLY...
EVEN IF YOU ARE MY FATHER, YOU SHOULD NEVER JUST BARGE INTO AN ADOLESCENT GIRL'S ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION...
ドキ・ドキ・
HOW THOUGHT-LESS!
PLEASE DEPART!
......
...FATHER?
!
ザ

D...
...DON'T!!
バサァァ



START OF THE EVERLASTING NIGHT: END

ベルセルク

THE FALLEN HAWK

堕ちた鷹

GRIFFITH...
THOSE WORDS I SAID TO YOU THEN, WERE NO FICTION.
IT HAD BEEN MY GREAT HOPE THAT *SOMEDAY* YOU WOULD HAVE SHOULDERED A LARGE PART OF MIDLAND'S ARMY AS A MILITARY GENIUS.
……
THERE WERE NOT A FEW WHO SLANDERED YOUR GROUP AS A BAND OF THIEVES, BUT I DIDN'T THINK SO.
EACH TIME THE BAND OF THE HAWK DISTINGUISHED ITSELF ON THE BATTLEFIELD, IT *HEIGHTENED* MY ASSERTION.
FOR SOME TIME I'VE HELD THAT A KNIGHT'S MERIT IS NOT DERIVED FROM LINEAGE OR SOCIAL POSITION...
...BUT THAT THE STRESS SHOULD INSTEAD BE PLACED ON HIS ACTIONS AND USE OF RESOURCES.

HOW-EVER ...!!
A THIEF IS STILL A THIEF!!
WAS YOUR COMMON BLOOD NOT GOOD ENOUGH?!
ギ
ギ
......
......

MY FOOLISH DAUGHTER...
IT'S AS IF SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE OF HER STATUS-- THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUCCESSION OF ROYAL BLOOD...
THE PRINCESS OF A KINGDOM...
...BEHAVES WITH THE RASHNESS OF SOME TOWNSGIRL... HER FRIVOLITY IS EXCESSIVE...
EVEN THAT...
...FOOLISH FRIVOLOUS GIRL...
...IS EVERYTHING TO ME...!!
BUT EVEN SO...
I WOULD GIVE MYSELF... EVEN THIS KINGDOM IN EXCHANGE FOR HER!!
SHE'S MY WHOLE LIFE!!

WHAT VALUE IS THERE IN THIS WORLD?!
WARS RAGE ON AND THE PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE LOST LIKE THEY WERE INSECTS!!
AFTER HOW MANY DECADES OF WAR AND HOW MANY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF CORPSES, WE'VE FINALLY BUILT A TIME OF REMEMBERED PEACE, BUT IT'S ONLY FOR AN INSTANT!!
ON THE UNDERSIDE, THE MONSTER NAMED WAR IS ALWAYS SEEKING NEW BLOOD, STARTING TO BREW ITSELF ANEW!!
IN THE FACE OF THAT MONSTER, THE WILL OF ONE LAND'S KING IS POWERLESS!!
THE WISDOM OF ONE MAN IS FOLLY!!
... ...
IN THIS ...
...BLOOD-STAINED, MEANINGLESS WORLD...
...AND YET, I CANNOT CEASE BEING KING...!!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN STOP!!
...IF THERE IS ONE SINGLE RAY OF HOPE TO BE FOUND...

IT IS...
...WARMTH.
ONLY WARMTH COVERS AND PROTECTS ME FROM THIS WORLD.
......
ドガ
YOU'VE TAKEN THE ONE FLOWER THAT GIVES ME THAT WARMTH...
...AND PLUCKED IT!!
UNFORGIVABLE!!!
AHH...
ALAS, MY POOR CHARLOTTE.
I'VE BROUGHT HER UP FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS. SHE KNOWING NO IMPURITY...
NOW THAT SHE'S GIVEN HERSELF UP TO THE SPORT OF A COMMONER...
I'D RATHER...
...RATHER THAT...

RATHER...
...THAT YOU...
TO HAVE BEEN WITH PRINCESS CHARLOTTE...
...WOULD HAVE HAD HER YOURSELF?
NO...
DON'T YOU...
...WANT HER TO HAVE YOU?
WHA-WHAT ARE YOU--?!
I HAD THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE.
IN PRINCESS CHARLOTTE'S SEVENTEEN YEARS, THERE MUST HAVE BEEN MANY PROFITABLE PROPOSALS OF MARRIAGE...
RATHER, POLITICAL MARRIAGE IS THE WAY OF THE WORLD FOR WARRING NATIONS... BUT YOU'VE REFUSED TO LET GO OF HER.
THE GREAT KING ON THE THRONE OF MIDLAND, ONCE RENOWNED WITH MAJESTY THROUGHOUT ALL LANDS...
...IS ACTUALLY NOTHING MORE THAN A LONELY, MISERABLE OLD MAN WHO CAN'T FIND ANY REASON TO LIVE BEYOND HIS BELOVED SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER...

YOU'VE LIVED ON BY RESIGNING YOURSELF TO THE MONSTER YOU ENVISION.
BUT YOU'VE BY *NO MEANS* TRIED TO HARNESS THAT MONSTER.
WHILE YOU WERE BORN TO THE SWORD CALLED THE THRONE AND HELD IT...
...IT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A BURDEN TO YOU.
HOW DARE YOU...
YOU'VE DONE NOTHING MORE THAN *NOT FAIL.*
クスクス
HOW WORTHLESS...
SILENCE!
だまれぇぇぇ

SILENCE!!
SILENCE!!
BE SILENT!!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU KNOW?!
WHAT DOES A FOOL LIKE YOU KNOW OF BEING KING...?!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?!
THE LAND!! THE HISTORY!!
THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE, ALL ON YOUR SHOULDERS...!!

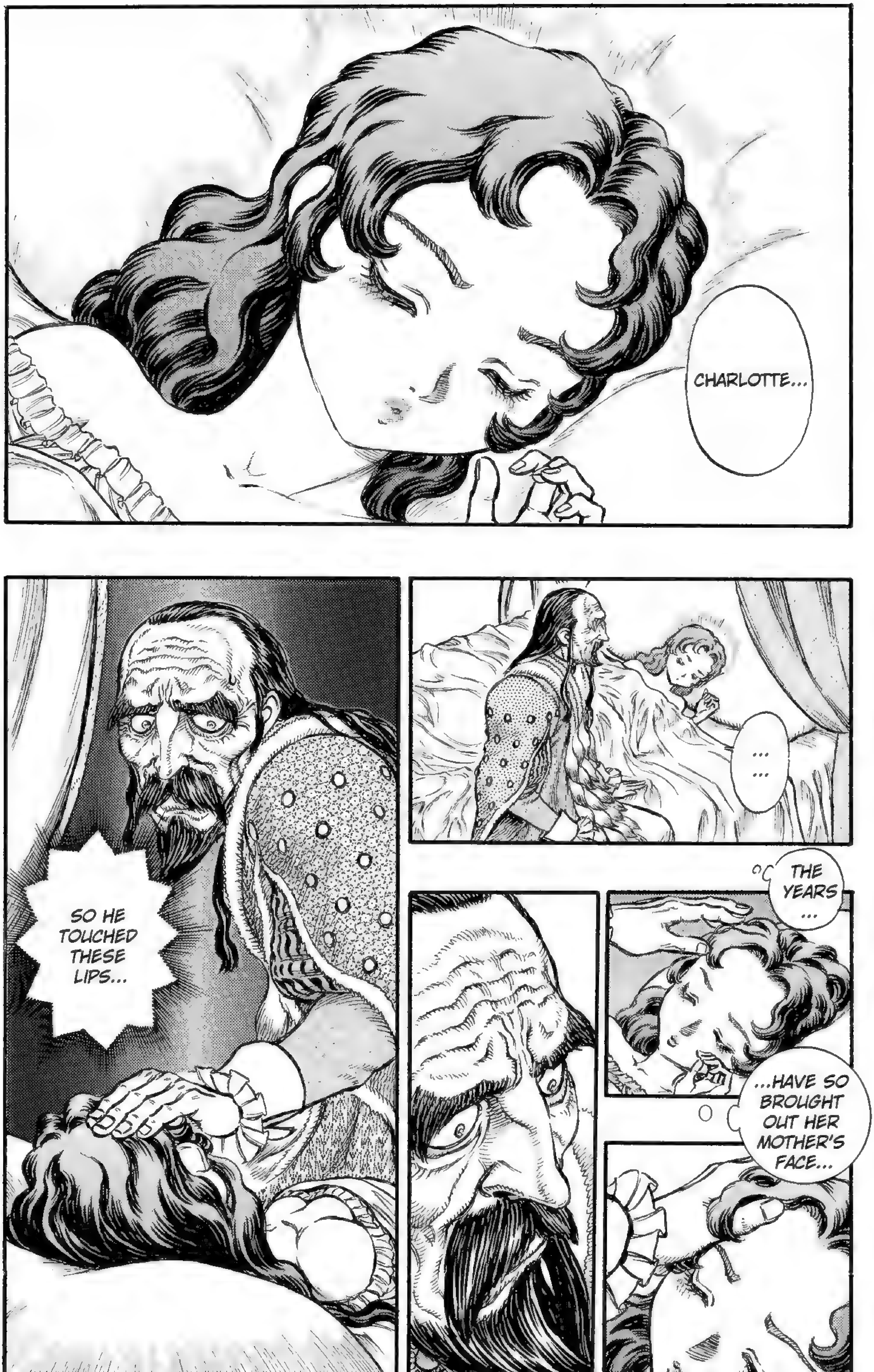
AHH...
ギィ…
ギィィ…
ギ

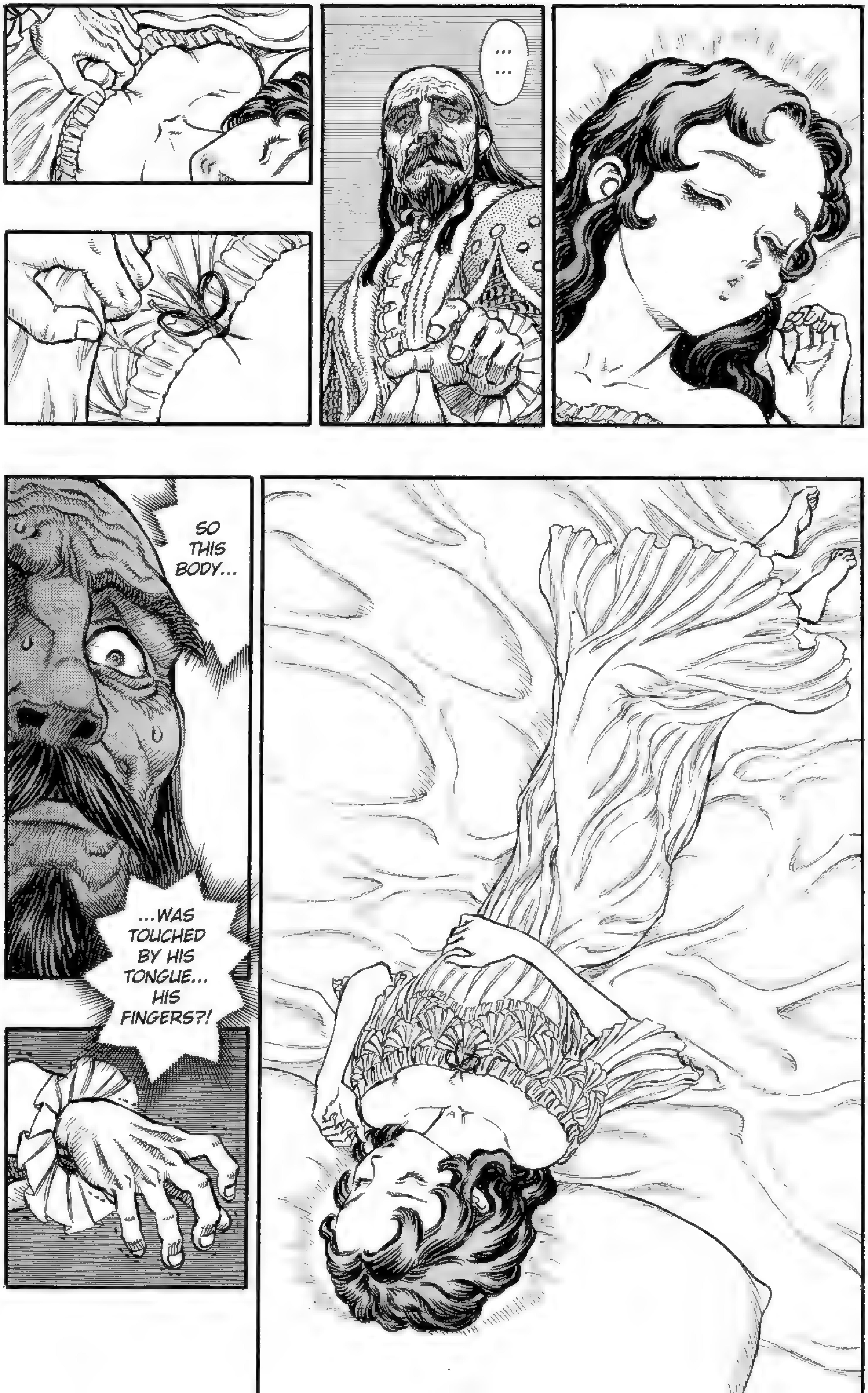
……
……
HMPH. FINE THEN. I WONDER IF THAT LOOK WILL LAST FOREVER?
TORTURER!
SHIRE…
HEE
HEE
ヒョコッ
ヒョコッ
DO WHATEVER YOU WISH WITH THIS MAN.
HE HAS SINNED *GRAVELY* AGAINST MIDLAND'S ROYAL HOUSE.
YESH, SHIRE.
ペタ・・
Y-YOU'RE SHERTAIN…?
HOWEVER, YOU MUST *NOT* KILL HIM!
HOWEVER FEEBLY, HE SHALL LIVE ANOTHER YEAR!

OO-HE-HEH.
ズリ
ズリ
HEE...
OO-HEE...
LISTEN!
BY MY ROYAL JUDICIAL POWER, I CHARGE THIS MAN PERSONALLY WITH TREASON AGAINST MIDLAND'S ROYAL HOUSE!!
HE SHALL BE MADE TO SEE THE GRAVITY OF HIS CRIME WHILE HE YET DRAWS BREATH.
I FORBID YOU TO TELL ANYONE ANYTHING ABOUT THIS!!
IF I WERE TO HEAR ABOUT THIS FROM ANYONE ELSE, EVEN JUST A TRIFLE...
...THEY AND THEIR ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, WILL BE SENTENCED TO DEATH.
YES, SIRE...
I MUST...
...SOMEHOW PROTECT MY DAUGHTER'S DIGNITY...
ギリ

IT'S DISAPPOINTING.
...THAT THE WHITE HAWK OF THE BATTLEFIELD...
...WOULD DESTROY HIMSELF OVER SUCH A WORTHLESS MATTER. I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED...
NO, THIS MUST HAVE BEEN BECAUSE YOU'RE YOUNG...
YOU ARE YOUNG. NO DOUBT YOUR HEART BURNED WITH DREAMS AND AMBITION.
IF YOU HAD BUT KNOWN YOUR PLACE, YOU MIGHT POSSIBLY HAVE ATTAINED THEM.
THIS IS THE END...
...OF YOUR DREAMS...
...YOUR AMBITION...
...EVERYTHING.
ギィィィィ
THE HAWK HAS FALLEN TO EARTH.
IT WILL NEVER TAKE FLIGHT AGAIN.
ガゴォオン

WHERE IS CHARLOTTE?
UNTIL A BIT AGO SHE HAD BEEN CRYING, BUT THE DOCTOR GAVE HER MEDICINE AND SHE JUST FELL ASLEEP.
UNTIL I SAY OTHERWISE, NO ONE IS TO COME NEAR THIS ROOM.
AND TRIPLE THE CURRENT NUMBER OF PALACE GUARDS.
バタン
......

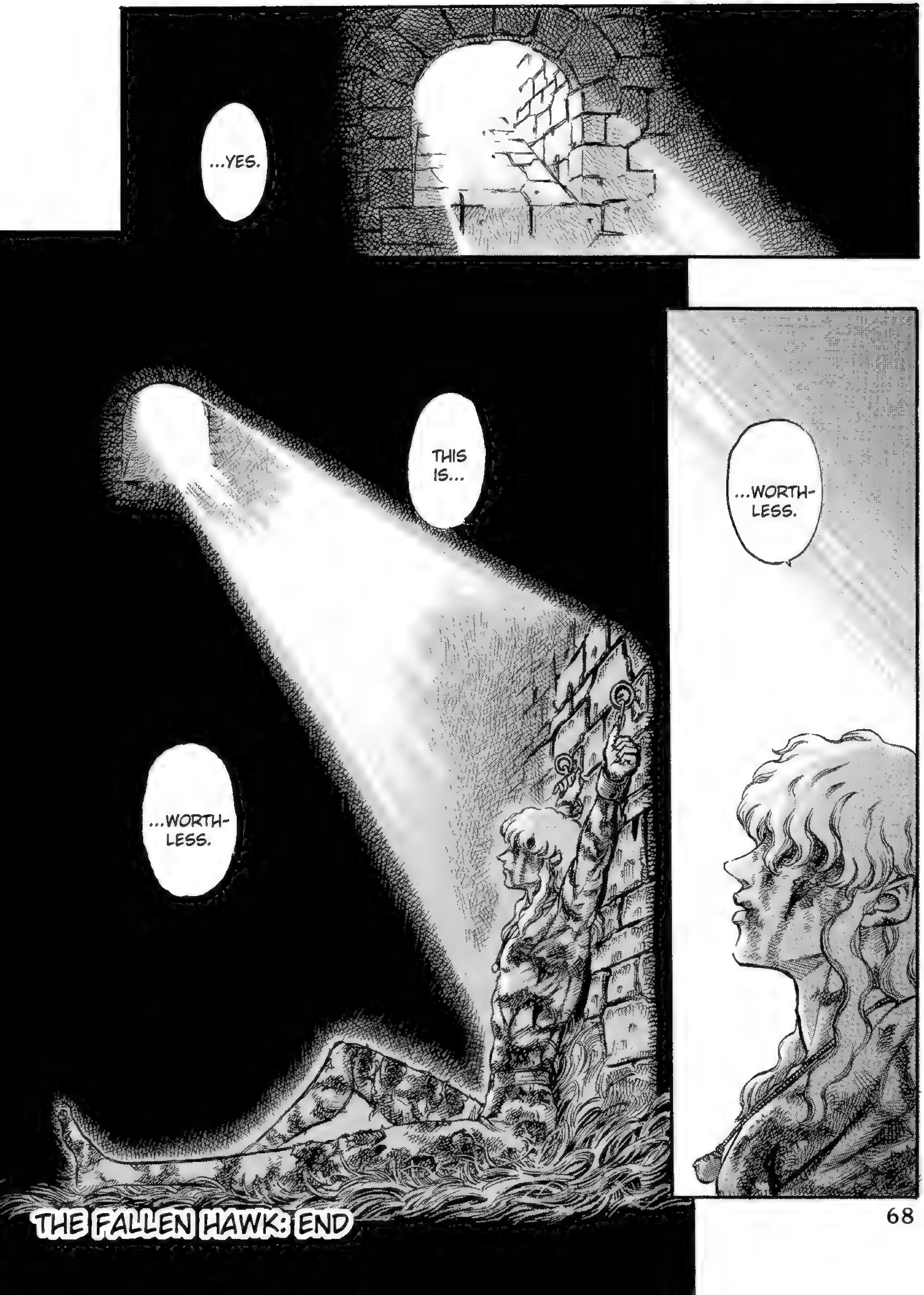

CHARLOTTE...
......
THE YEARS...
...HAVE SO BROUGHT OUT HER MOTHER'S FACE...
SO HE TOUCHED THESE LIPS...


……
SO THIS BODY…
…WAS TOUCHED BY HIS TONGUE… HIS FINGERS?!

シュル..

HN……
ピクッ
……
ハァ
ハァ
ハァ

NOOOOO!!


...YES.
THIS IS...
...WORTHLESS.
...WORTHLESS.

THE FALLEN HAWK: END

ベルセルク

夢の終焉

DEMISE OF A DREAM

NOOOOO!!

ガシャァァ..
ハア.
ハア.
ズル..
ハ
ハア
...!!
W-WAIT... CHA-CHARLOTTE! I--!!
NOOOOO!
ヨロ..

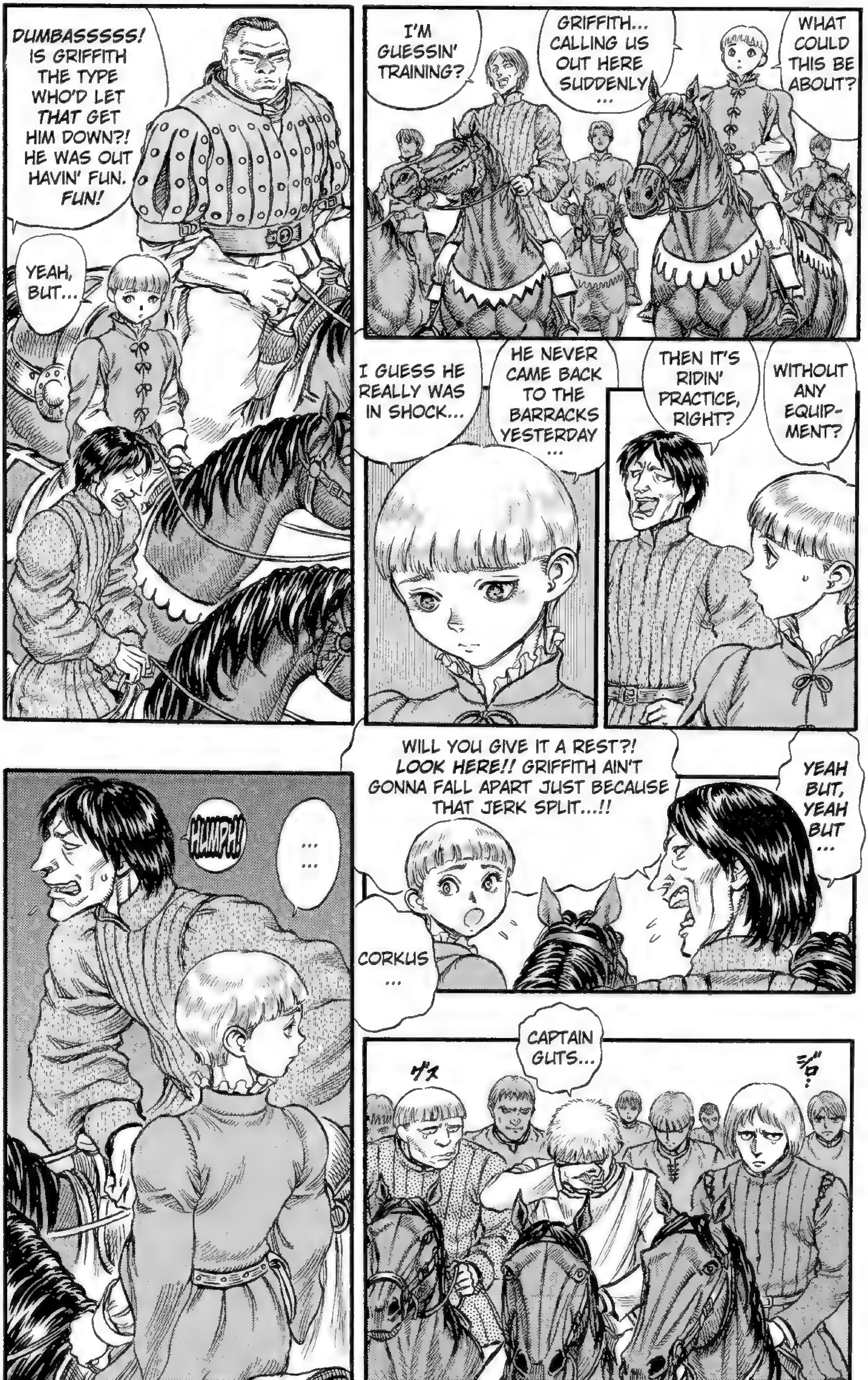
I...
ガタ ガタ
...UH.
HAAAAAA.
ガバァ
YAHHHH!

...!!
HAAU...
ズザッ
ドンッ
...!!
ヒクッ
IGUH...
ハア
ハア

...HN!
LORD GRIF-FIIITH !!

AIIEEEE!!
AGH!
AGH!
HYAHH!!
バタン!!
ガチ
ガチ
ガチ
......!!
SAVE ME...!!
SAVE ME...
LORD GRIF-FITH...

GUFAHH...
ヨロ
DA...
DAMN YOUUU!!
DAMN YOU...
...GRIFFITH!!


WHAT COULD THIS BE ABOUT?
GRIFFITH... CALLING US OUT HERE SUDDENLY...
I'M GUESSIN' TRAINING?
WITHOUT ANY EQUIPMENT?
THEN IT'S RIDIN' PRACTICE, RIGHT?
HE NEVER CAME BACK TO THE BARRACKS YESTERDAY...
I GUESS HE REALLY WAS IN SHOCK...
DUMBASSSSS! IS GRIFFITH THE TYPE WHO'D LET THAT GET HIM DOWN?! HE WAS OUT HAVIN' FUN. FUN!
YEAH, BUT...
YEAH BUT, YEAH BUT...
WILL YOU GIVE IT A REST?! LOOK HERE!! GRIFFITH AIN'T GONNA FALL APART JUST BECAUSE THAT JERK SPLIT...!!
CORKUS...
HUMPH!
......
CAPTAIN GUTS...
ジロ・・
グス

……
……
...STILL, GRIFFITH IS SURE LATE...
ザアァ ア.
アァ ア..ア.アァ..
WHAT'S UP, PIPPIN?
……
……

ギリ!!
ギリ!!
EVERYONE TAKE COVER!!!
?!
ビクッ!!
GEH!! PIPPIN SHOUTED ?!

ヒュ
ヒュ
ヒュ
ザアアアアアア
ドドドドドド

ドシャアアア。。
WHA...
WHAT THE--?!
ENEMIES ?!
!
UWAH!
ザ!!

H-HEY!
LOOK ...!!

T-TROOPS?!
HAS CHUDER DRIVEN ACROSS THE BORDER...?!
N-NO, THAT'S ...
ガシャ
ガシャ
ガシャ
ガシャ
...MIDLAND...
THE MIDLAND ARMY ...?!
ドドドド

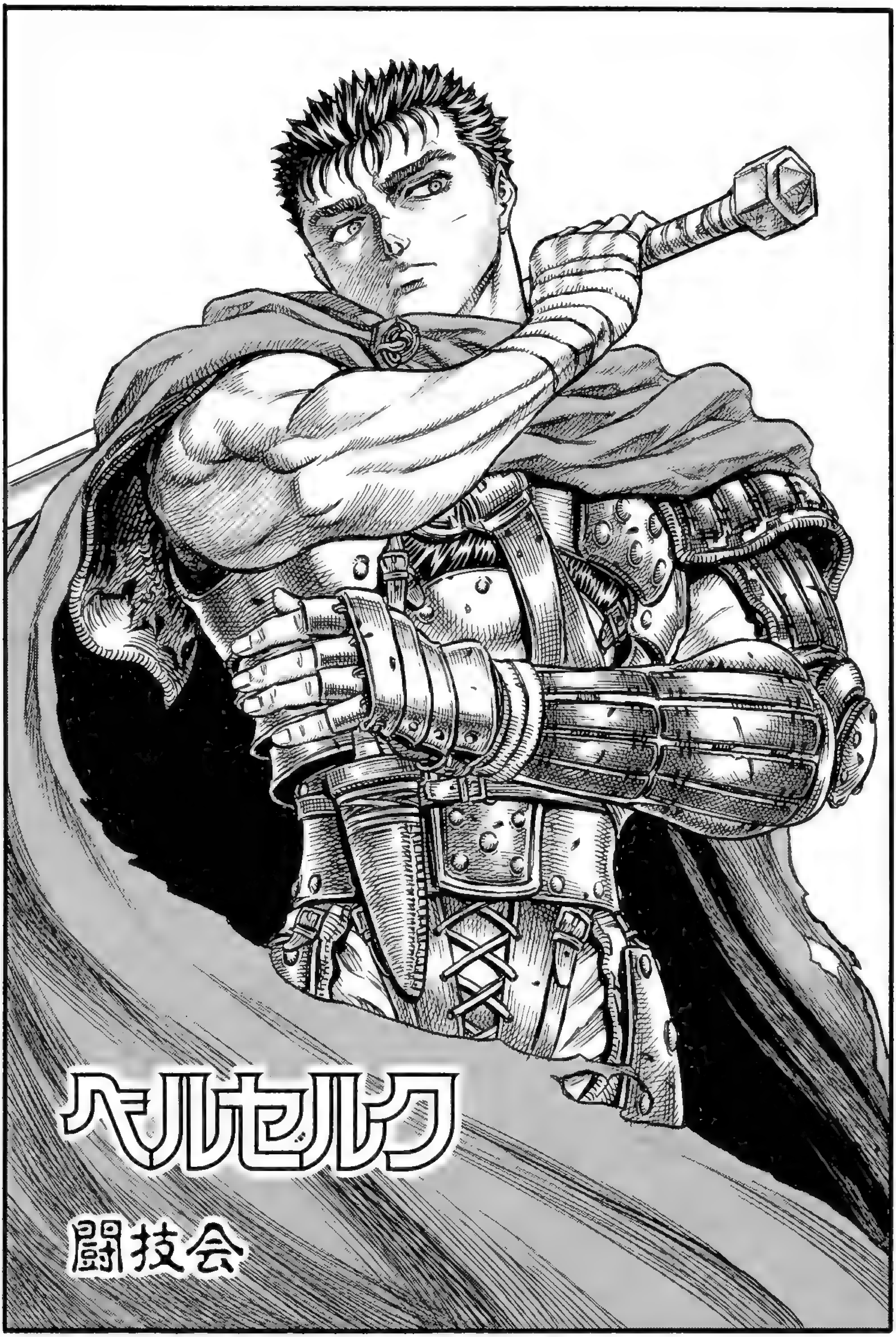
SON OF A BITCH!!
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON...?!
ARE WE...
ARE WE GONNA BITE IT HERE?!
ガシャ
ガシャ
ガシャ
ガシャ

FORM RANKS!!
IF WE SCATTER AND RUN, WE'RE ALL DEAD!!
WHY ...?!
GET INTO WEDGE FORMATION!!
WHY ?!
WE'LL BREAK THROUGH AT ONE POINT AND ESCAPE!!
!
SIS, LOOK OUT!!

GRIFFITH...!!
HEE-HEE.
Y-YOU'RE AMAZHIN'...
I-I'VE NEVER SHEEN SHUCH...
TH-THISH MUCH TORTURE, AND YOU HAVEN'T MADE A PEEP.
TH-THAT'SH THE LEADER OF THE HAWKSH FOR YA...
I-I'M SHO MOVED.
L-LETTIN' ME DO WHATEVER I WANT WITH SHUCH A BEAUTIFUL, SHPLENDID ONE LIKE YOU... TH-THE KING'SH SHO GRACIOUS...
......
...HN?
OHH?!
TH-THAT'SH GREAT!
NEAT! CAN I KEEP THISH?

ギョロ
YEE!
ビク
HAHHH ... WHAT A WASHTE ......
I WENT AND DROPPED IT...
......
ザァァ-アァ-アァア

DEMISE OF A DREAM: END



ARMS TOURNAMENT

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ワアアアアアアアア
ドガガアアーンッ。ン。
OHHH, WHAT HEROISM.
YES, SIR.

MY COMBAT TOURNAMENT HAS BECOME QUITE FAMOUS IN MANY COUNTRIES OVER THE YEARS.
HO HO HO...
IT'S REALLY STARTED TO DRAW IN SOME STRONG ONES.
MASTER, THIS TOURNAMENT'S FEATURED BOUT IS BEGINNING.
オオオオオ
OHHH!!
ON ONE SIDE IS THE MERCENARY VALANCIA, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "KING OF MASSACRE."
A WILD BEAST SAID TO HAVE CLAIMED THE LIVES OF A HUNDRED-THIRTY MIDLAND SOLDIERS IN THE PREVIOUS HUNDRED-YEAR WAR.
ON THE OTHER SIDE IS THIS TOURNAMENT'S DARK HORSE, A NEWCOMER USING STRANGE WEAPONS AND TECHNIQUES WHO CONTINUES TO CUT A SWATH THROUGH THE COMPETITION.
THE ENIGMATIC WARRIOR FROM A STRANGE LAND, SILAT.
オオオ
オオ

HMMM. THIS WILL BE A SIGHT.
ワアア・アア
……
HNN!!
ガシュウウ
ドゥン
ザッ!!
ブォ
ゴ
ビュ

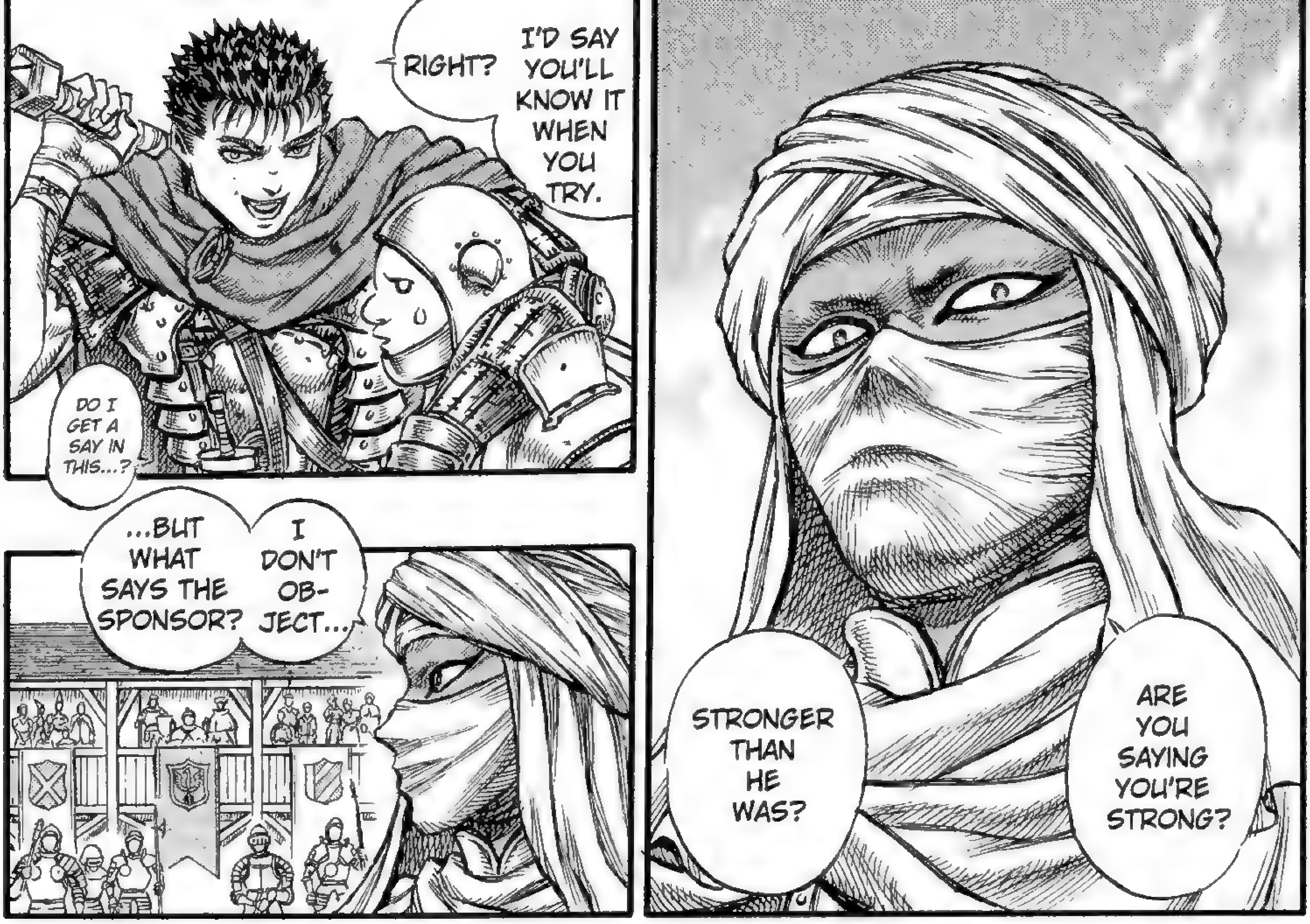
OHHH!! VALANCIA'S DOING ALL THE PUSHING!!
BUT HE JUST BARELY DODGES EACH BLOW!
!

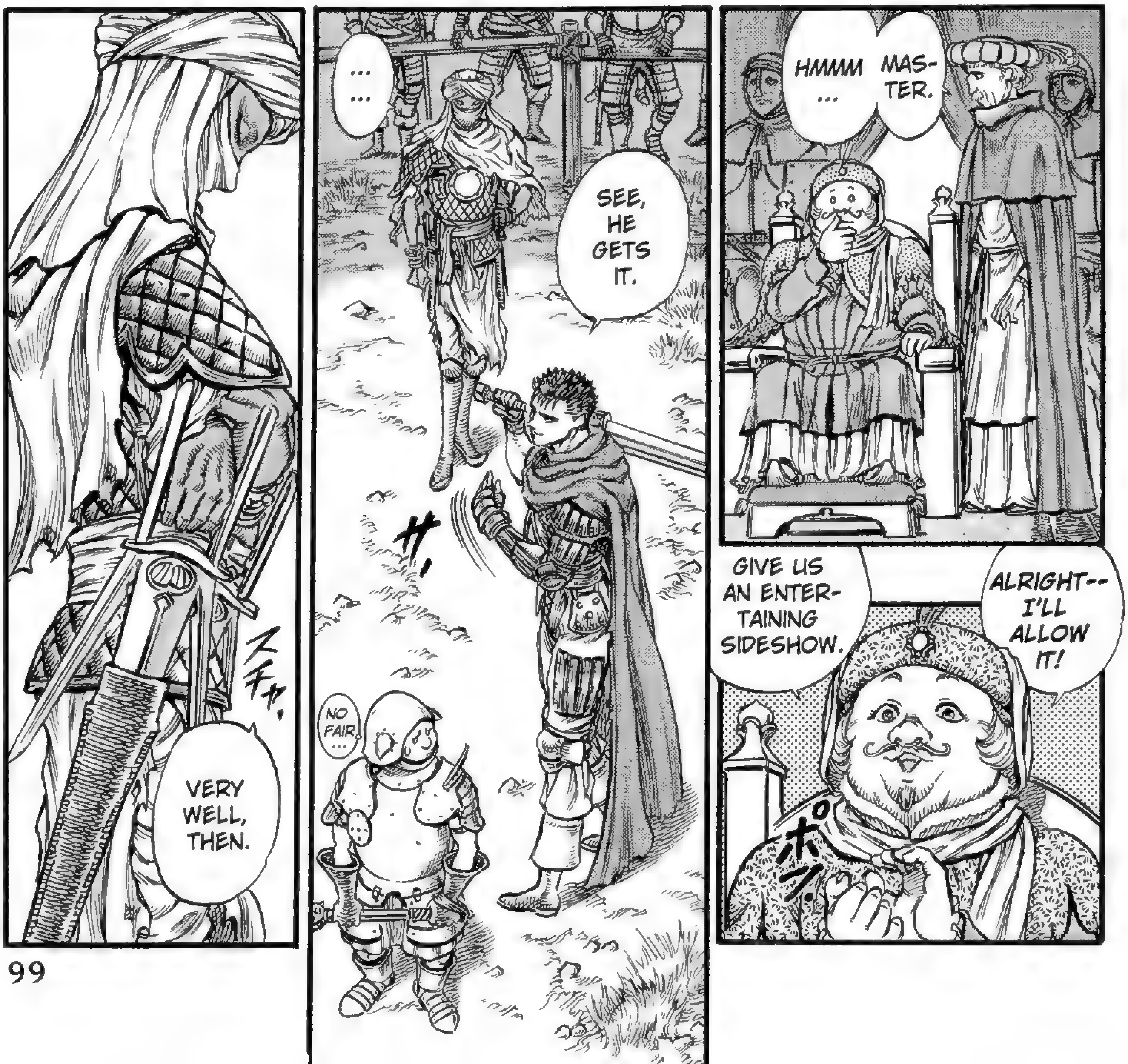
NWAH?!
H-HIS FOOT?!
HNGG...!
HSHHH!

CUTTING YOUR SWORD IN TWO BY SIMULTANEOUSLY SLASHING FROM BOTH SIDES IS SIMPLE.
CUTTING YOUR HEAD OFF WOULD BE THE SAME.
I...
I SUBMIT ...
HOW SPORTS-MANLIKE.

THE SWORD ARTS OF THIS LAND ARE DULL AND NARROW-MINDED.
IN THE FACE OF MY DEEPLY ROOTED HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING STYLE, THEY REMIND ME OF CHILDREN SWINGING STICKS.
OHHH!! THAT TURBAN MAN DID IT!!
HOH HOHHH
IT SEEMS CERTAIN HE WILL WIN THE TOURNAMENT THIS TIME.
HMMMM, STILL...FOR A FOREIGNER TO WIN WITH SO LITTLE OPPOSITION...
...I FEEL SLIGHTLY PUT OUT.
ワー ワー
IT WOULD SEEM THIS ARMS TOURNAMENT IS NO MORE THAN A SWORD-RUSTING FARCE...
オオ
オ
オオオ

ザッ
SHAK
WHO'S *THAT* MAN...?
......
H-*HEY*, PAL...I'M NEXT. WAIT YOUR TURN, OKAY?
PAT
IT LOOKS OPEN TO ME. DON'T GET SO WOUND UP, THIS IS A FESTIVAL.
SO, FROM WHERE I WAS STANDIN', IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WANTED TO FIGHT SOMEBODY TOUGHER.
WHADDA YA SAY, WANNA HAVE A GO?
UM, HEY ...


ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE STRONG?
STRONGER THAN HE WAS?
RIGHT?
I'D SAY YOU'LL KNOW IT WHEN YOU TRY.
DO I GET A SAY IN THIS...?
I DON'T OBJECT...
...BUT WHAT SAYS THE SPONSOR?


VERY WELL, THEN.
......
SEE, HE GETS IT.
NO FAIR...
MASTER.
HMMM...
ALRIGHT-- I'LL ALLOW IT!
GIVE US AN ENTERTAINING SIDESHOW.

BUT SIDESHOW OR NOT, YOU SOUGHT THIS YOURSELF!
I ASSUME YOU'RE PREPARED.
TAKE YOUR STANCE!!
COME ON... ANY TIME.
WHAT... YOU'LL USE NO STANCE?

YOU MEAN TO WIN BY USING THAT FREAKISHLY MASSIVE SWORD TO KEEP ME AT A DISTANCE. BUT THEN, YOUR STYLE OF SWORDPLAY CAN'T RESTRAIN MY MOVEMENTS.
SOUNDS PRETTY SENSIBLE, WHAT WITH THAT NARROW-MINDEDNESS OR WHATEVER YOU SAID.
DON'T SWEAT THE DETAILS. THIS IS A FESTIVAL AFTER ALL.
!
...VERY WELL.
A FESTIVAL WITHOUT BLOOD...
...IS A RATHER BORING THING.

HE'S QUICK.
OHHHH!!
THE REVERSE OF LAST TIME!
SS!!

ビュオッ!!
SHAAAAA
ガギッ
ドゥワッ
IYAAAAA!
ガッ
ガッ

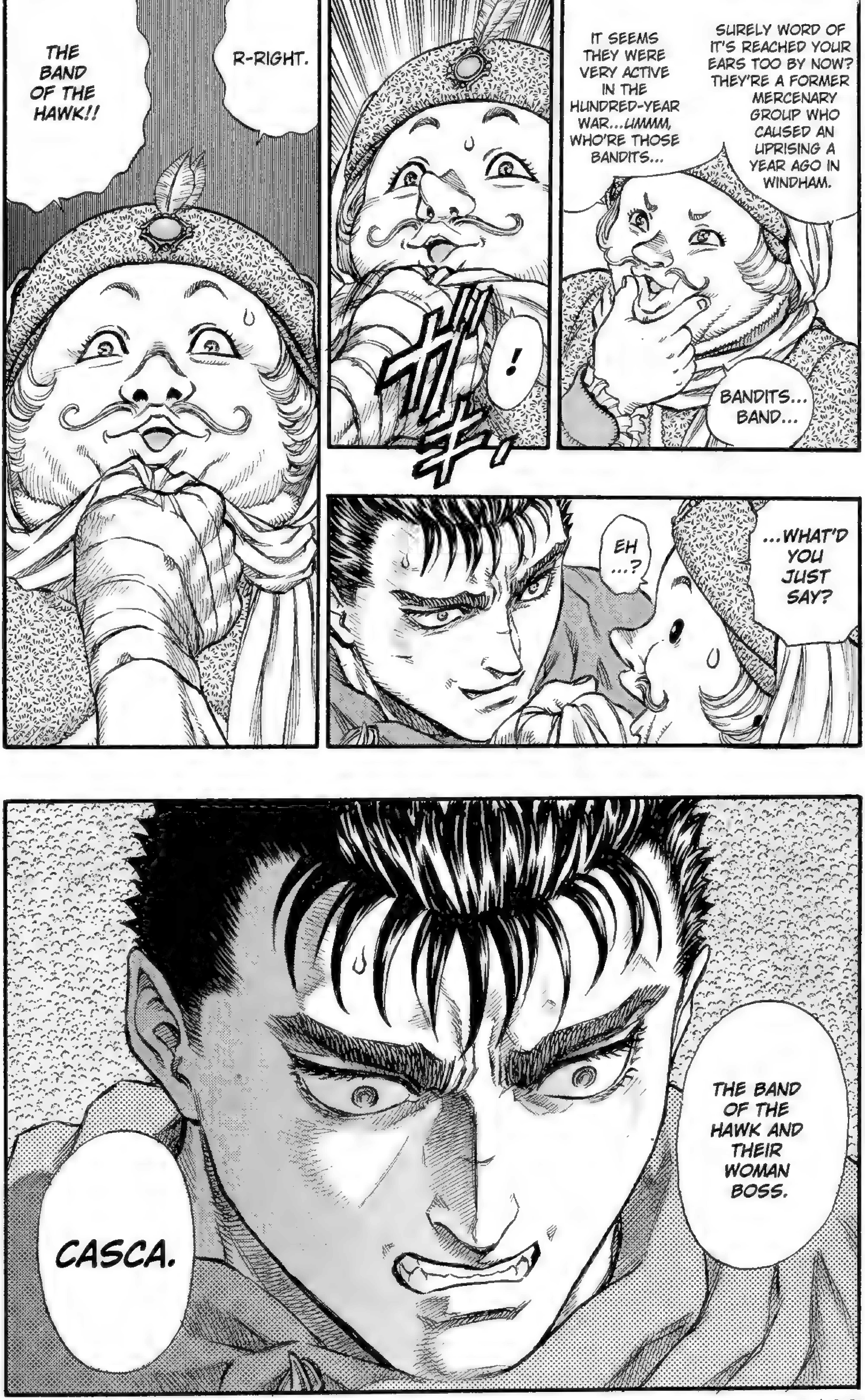
BOTH HANDS ARE BARRED!!
ギュルルル
ダッ
チェストオオオ
ENGARRRDE!

AHH!!
IT'S NO USE!

BWAAAA!
YOU MIGHT WANNA STICK TO...
...STREET PERFORMING.
HO-HOO!!
HE DID IT!!
WAGGH!
DO YOU MIND...

HEYYY, YOU THERE!
IMPRESSIVE... MOST IMPRESSIVE!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK FOR ME? I'LL PAY WELL!
......
BEFORE LONG, THERE'S TO BE A LARGE-SCALE ROBBER HUNT INSIDE MY TERRITORY.
THIS TOURNAMENT WAS ALSO TO RALLY SOLDIERS FOR THAT.
SORRY, I'M NOT INTERESTED.
I JUST WANNA TRY MY HAND AT STRONG OPPONENTS.
HOHO, ARE YOU ON PEREGRINATION*?
HNNN, WELL, SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT...
IN THAT CASE, REST ASSURED!
THEY SAY THAT THE WOMAN BOSS OF THOSE BANDITS IS SUCH A GOOD SWORD FIGHTER, EVEN TEN LARGE MEN COULDN'T DEFEAT HER!
A *WOMAN*?!

*A KNIGHT ON A JOURNEY FOR THE SAKE OF LEARNING/TRAINING.


SURELY WORD OF IT'S REACHED YOUR EARS TOO BY NOW? THEY'RE A FORMER MERCENARY GROUP WHO CAUSED AN UPRISING A YEAR AGO IN WINDHAM.
IT SEEMS THEY WERE VERY ACTIVE IN THE HUNDRED-YEAR WAR...UMMM, WHO'RE THOSE BANDITS...
BANDITS... BAND...
!
...WHAT'D YOU JUST SAY?
EH ...?
R-RIGHT.
THE BAND OF THE HAWK!!
THE BAND OF THE HAWK AND THEIR WOMAN BOSS.
CASCA.

ARMS TOURNAMENT: END

THE FUGITIVES

ベルセルク
逃亡者たち

HEH EH...
HEE HEE HEE ...
WE FINALLY FOUND IT...
THE HAWKS' HIDEOUT ...

WHEWW.
IF YOU PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD, YOU WON'T LAST.
JUDEAU ...
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL...
...BUT YOU'RE ESSENTIALLY THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S *LEADER* NOW.
EVERYONE'S WORN OUT FROM LIVING SO LONG AS FUGITIVES. IF YOU WERE TO COLLAPSE *NOW*...
I KNOW.
WORD JUST CAME BACK FROM THE GROUP WE SLIPPED INTO WINDHAM.
... ...

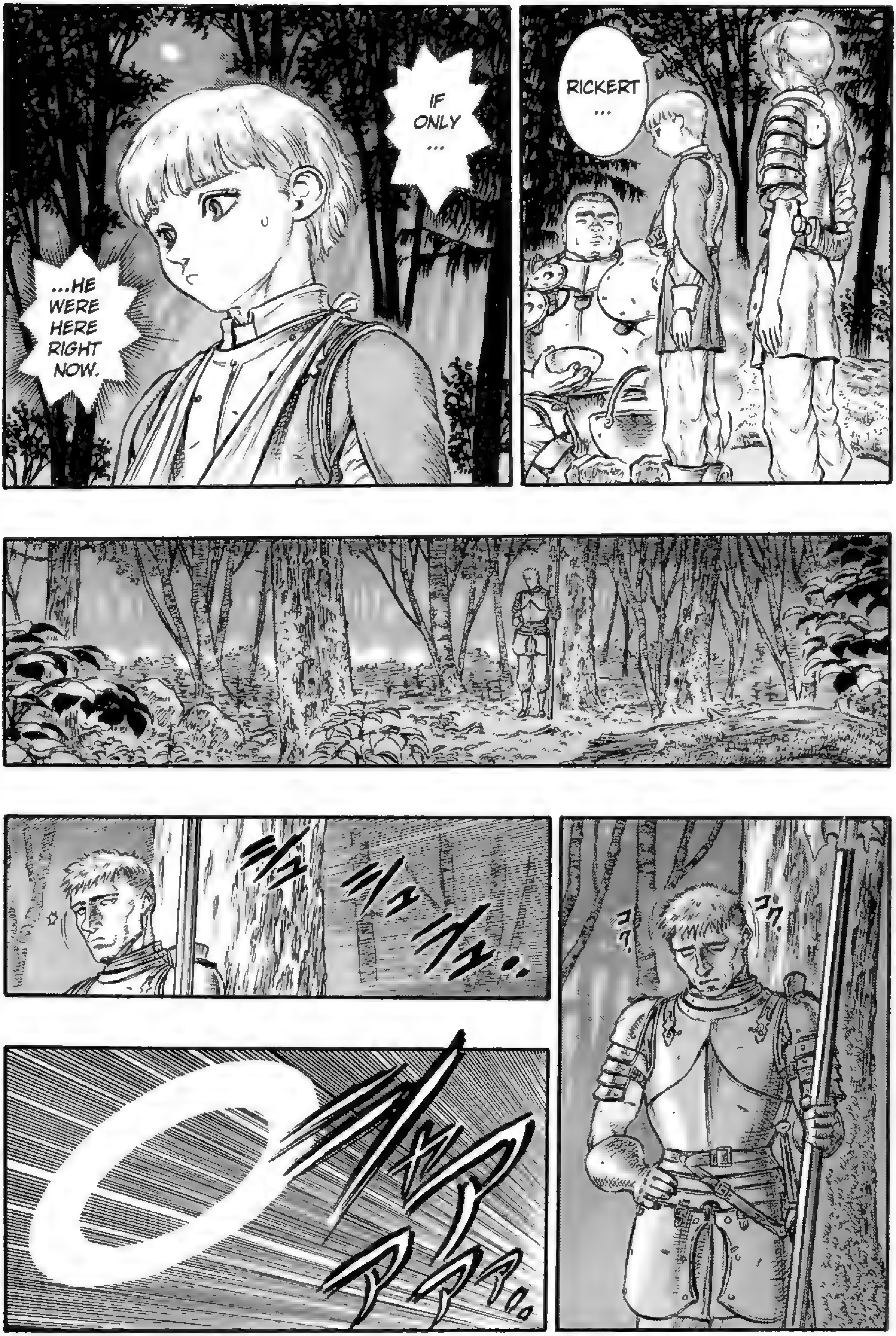
GRIFFITH IS IN THE VERY LOWEST LEVEL OF WINDHAM CASTLE... SEEMS HE'S CONFINED IN A REALLY OLD UNDERGROUND PRISON.
HE'S BEEN TORTURED FOR A YEAR, AND STILL IT GOES ON... SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE HEARD SOMETHING BETWEEN...SCREAMS...AND MOANS IN A VOICE LIKE GRIFFITH'S COMING FROM THE PRISON.
BUT IN THE PAST MONTH...
...EVEN THAT'S COME TO AN END...
……
EVERYONE'S AT THE PEAK OF EXHAUSTION. WE CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS FUGITIVE LIFE.
IF WE DON'T HURRY...
HAVE FAITH.
ポン!
HAVE MORE FAITH IN YOUR COMPANIONS.
SURE, WE'RE THE ONES WHO LIFTED YOU UP AS OUR LEADER...
...BUT IS THERE ANY NEED TO BURDEN YOURSELF WITH EVERYTHING?

EACH ONE OF US...
...DOES NOTHING MORE THAN WHAT HE CAN.
YOU'D BETTER REST UP!
WITH A TIRED MIND, YOU CAN'T EVEN PLAN HOW TO RESCUE GRIFFITH!
......
JUDEAU...
SO, ANYWAY...
EAT, THEN SLEEP!
YOUR EYES ARE BAGGY.
......
...YOU'RE RIGHT.
THANKS.
JUDEAU...

……
……
ガラン!!

HOW'S CASCA?
SHE'LL REST SOME.
THAT'S BEST. SHE HASN'T SLEPT AT ALL LATELY.
SHE'S ACTUALLY DOING VERY WELL. IF SHE HADN'T TAKEN COMMAND AT ONCE A YEAR AGO, THE BAND OF THE HAWK MIGHT HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT ON THOSE HUNTING GROUNDS.
THAT'S TRUE...IF SHE HADN'T BEEN ACTING LEADER AFTERWARDS, TOO...
...I DON'T KNOW WHETHER EVERYONE WOULD'VE SURVIVED 'TIL TODAY OR NOT.
HEHEH... SURVIVE, HUH...
SO WHAT IF WE SURVIVED?
ALL WE'RE DOIN' IS RUNNIN' AROUND 'CAUSE WE DON'T WANNA DIE.

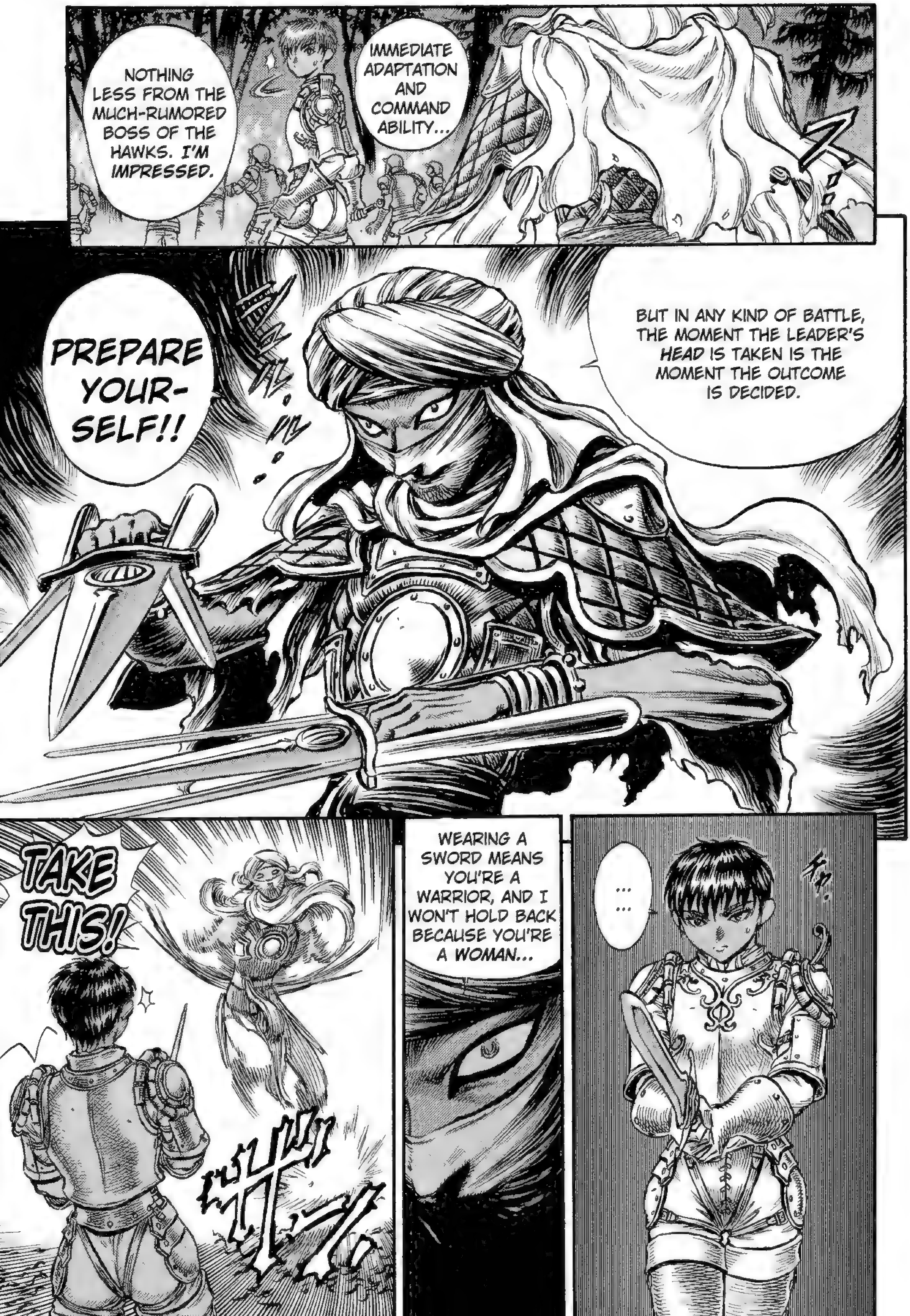
EVEN IF WE SURVIVE ALRIGHT TO START OVER FROM SCRATCH IN SOME OTHER COUNTRY...IT'D BE NO USE.
HOW MANY YEARS D'YOU THINK IT TOOK US TO GET AS FAR AS WE DID? IT'D NEVER GO THAT WAY AGAIN...
WITHOUT *GRIFFITH* THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S JUST A RABBLE ANYWAY...
WH-WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?!
THAT'S WHY WE'RE ALL GOING TO TRY TO BREAK GRIFFITH OUT...!
YOU GOT ANY PROOF...
...HE'S STILL ALIVE?
!
TO BE HONEST...
...AIN'T IT ALL OVER AND GONE...
...ANYMORE?
WHA... WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
THEN WHY ARE YOU *HERE*, CORKUS?! WHY DIDN'T YOU GO WITH THE OTHERS WHO LEFT?!
... ...


IF ONLY ...
...HE WERE HERE RIGHT NOW.
RICKERT ...
シュ
シュ
シュ..
コク
コク

ドッ
ザッ
NOT EVEN ENOUGH TIME...
...FOR A DECENT RE-ACTION.
NOW TO SEE IF THE RENOWNED BAND OF THE HAWK REALLY IS PREY WORTHY OF MY FIGHTING ARTS...

LET'S GO!!
ザ
ウオオオオオオ
!
ORAHHH!
HA-HAHHH!
HYAOWW!

ENEMY RAID!!
ビクッ
ENEMY RAID!!
...!!
バサッ
オオオオオオオォォ
!
THE ENEMY'S ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE FOREST!! UNITS 3 AND 4, MEET THEIR CHARGE!!
EVERYONE ELSE GET THE WOUNDED INTO WAGONS AND ON HORSEBACK, THEN TO OPEN GROUND TO THE SOUTH...!!


IMMEDIATE ADAPTATION AND COMMAND ABILITY...
NOTHING LESS FROM THE MUCH-RUMORED BOSS OF THE HAWKS. I'M IMPRESSED.
BUT IN ANY KIND OF BATTLE, THE MOMENT THE LEADER'S HEAD IS TAKEN IS THE MOMENT THE OUTCOME IS DECIDED.
PREPARE YOURSELF!!
......
WEARING A SWORD MEANS YOU'RE A WARRIOR, AND I WON'T HOLD BACK BECAUSE YOU'RE A WOMAN...
TAKE THIS!

EN GARDE!
!
?!
HAAA!

TCH!

HA! HA! HA! HA!
CASCA!!
HOW DOES HE MOVE LIKE THIS?!
I CAN'T COUNTER-ER ...!!

THE FIGHT IS MINE!
IF YOU THROW DOWN YOUR SWORD AND ORDER YOUR MEN TO SURRENDER, FINE. IF NOT, I CUT OFF YOUR HEAD HERE AND NOW.
I'LL COUNT TO THREE. YOU SHOULD CHOOSE!!
ONE.
... ...
TWO.
HNG!
ッ
THREE ...

FOUR.
ZWOHHboo
……

DON'T LET SOME STREET PERFORMER DO YOU IN.
……
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER…
…UNIT COMMANDER.

THE FUGITIVES: END

GUTS...
GUTS...
RAIDERS CAPTAIN GUTS...?
GUTS...!!
CAPTAIN GUTS...?
GU-GUTS...?!
GU... CAPTAIN GUTS?!
...!!
AHH...!!
GU--!!
ベルセルク

ベルセルク

闘者

THE FIGHTER

GUTS ...
HUHUH ... SO THAT'S IT...
THE CAPTAIN OF THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S RAIDERS...
YOU'RE THAT FAMOUS HUNDRED-MAN KILLER.
NO WONDER YOU'RE SO TOUGH...
G... ...?
HEY! NO TIME FOR SLOUCHIN'.
HE AND I'VE GOT A BIT OF BUSINESS.
LEAVE THIS TO ME AND TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN JOB.

……
……
ダ
HM...
THIS *TOO* IS DIVINE GRACE.
HERE I'LL WASH AWAY...
...THE *SHAME* FROM THE ARMS TOURNAMENT!
チャ
ス
NOW, I WONDER IF YOU CAN DEFEAT...
...THESE UNFAMILIAR WEAPONS, THESE *CHAKRAM*?

SO YOUR NEXT FEAT'S RING TOSSING?
YOU REALLY DO REMIND ME OF A STREET PERFORMER.
BUT YOU STINK AS A SWORDSMAN.
CHAKRAM ...?!
DON'T LAUGH. THESE AREN'T JUST THROWING RINGS.
OH, NO...
OH, NO ...!!
GUTS, THOSE'RE ...!!
ONCE THEY FLY OFF THESE FINGERS ......
...THEY GO TO TAKE OFF YOUR HEAD! AND BECOME...
... ANGELS' HALOS!!

ギャオオオォ
WHAT'RE YOU UP TO?
HMM ...
ヅ
YOUR DOOM!!

WATCH OUT!!
CHAKRAM CAN...
...CHANGE DIRECTION ON THEIR OWN!!
グン
シャアアアアア
コオオオオオ
オオ

WHEW!
IMPOSS-IBLE...!!
YOU MEAN YOU JUDGED THE PATHS OF *TWO* CHAKRAM AT THE *SAME TIME*...?!
LIKE THIS?
NOT AT ALL.
IT'S JUST LIKE SWATTING FLIES, RIGHT? I MIGHT'VE BEEN IN TROUBLE WITH TWO OR THREE MORE OF 'EM.
LET'S SEE...
......

みょいん
WOOPS.
……
VERY WELL.
THEN I SHALL ADD...
...THOSE TWO OR THREE MORE.
シャアアア
アアア
ドジャアアアア

YOU EVEN TALK LIKE AN ENTERTAINER.
WHERE'D HE PULL THOSE FROM?
チャ
WHAT'S WITH THOSE WEAPONS ...?!
URUMI!!
THE NAME MEANS "THUNDER"!
AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, ITS POWER IS LIKE A THUNDERCLAP, AND IT'S THE MIGHTIEST WITHIN MY ARSENAL!!
DRINK OF IT DEEPLY!!

パァァン
スッ
ドッドッドッ

NICELY DODGED!
EXCELLENT REFLEXES!
BUT HOW LONG CAN YOU KEEP RUNNING?! ONE URUMI CONSISTS OF FIVE BLADES THAT MOVE LIKE WHIPS AND CUT LIKE A WEASEL'S *SLASH!!* AND I CAN MANIPULATE EACH BLADE INDIVIDUALLY!!
HOW WILL YOU DODGE BLADES FROM TEN DIRECTIONS AT ONCE?!
...!!
WAIT, JUDEAU!!
......
......

NEVER MIND HIM!!
YOU TAKE COMMAND OF UNITS THREE AND FOUR!!
BUT --
HURRY!!
WHEN HE GETS THAT LOOK IN HIS EYES...
...HE DOESN'T NEED HELP!!
HE'S FINE.
......
HERE I COME!!

IT REALLY IS SHARP AS A WEASEL'S SCRATCH!!
SHAOOOOO!!
OHH ?!

AH...
UH-HOW?
OWW...
I'M HONESTLY SURPRISED...
...THAT THERE'S ANYONE WHO CAN DODGE THE URUMI THIS LONG.
BUT HOWEVER MUCH YOU RUN, YOU'LL END UP LIKE THAT MAN.
IT'S A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL YOUR SKIN IS SLICED OFF LIKE AN APPLE PEEL.
!
......

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
KNOWING YOU CAN'T RUN, YOU'RE FACING ME?
WHAT CAN YOU DO?!
...IN SUCH A BRIEF INSTANT FROM THAT LOW STANCE?!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP THE URUMI WITH YOUR SWORD!!
A SWORDSMAN AS SKILLED AS *YOU* SHOULD KNOW THAT!!
HAVE YOU THROWN THE FIGHT?!
THOSE AREN'T THE EYES OF A DEAD MAN...
......

SO BE IT!!
I ACCEPT THIS CHALLENGE OF YOURS!!
SUFFER THE DANCE OF TEN BLADES!!
ギリ
ギリ
ギュ
ギュ

SHH!
ギャアアアア

ゴワァァァァ
ビュァ
ビュァ
ビュァ
WHA ...?!
AIR PRESSURE ...?!

KHA ....!
ギャイイイン

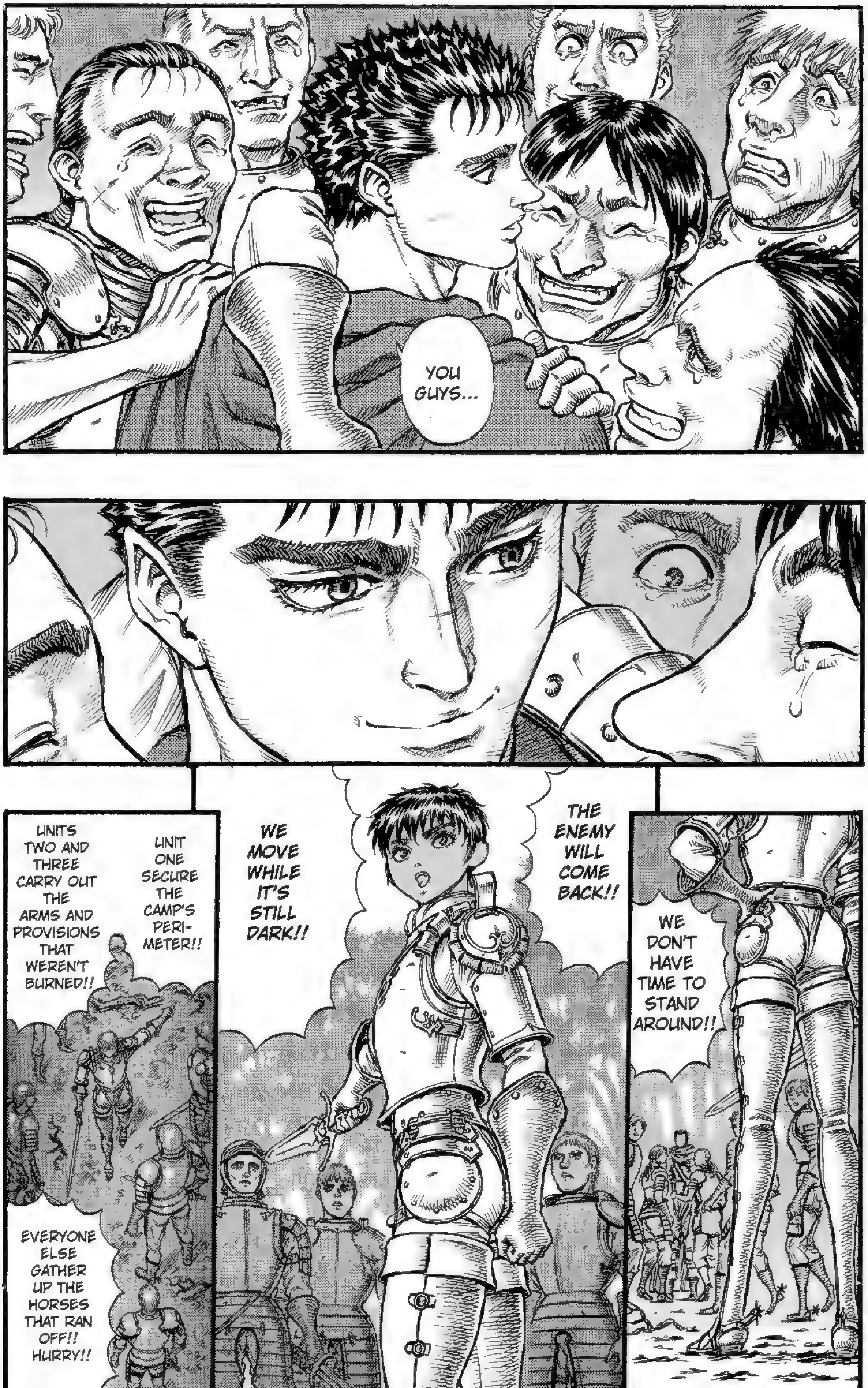
SWITCHIN' WEAPONS ON THE FLY...
NOT TOO SHABBY.
...!
...FILTHY CUR.
MASTER SILAT!!
IT... IT'S NO USE!
WE'RE BEING ROUTED!!
GUTS, WAS IT?
I'LL REMEMBER YOUR NAME.
... ...

THE FIGHTER: END

ベルセルク
戦友
COMRADES IN ARMS

……
……
YO.
オオオオオオオ…
GUUUUUUTS!!
ワァアアァア。ア。。
GU…
GU…!!
HI, RICKERT. STILL ALIVE, HUH?

TCH!
CAPTAIN!!
AH... THE RAIDERS...
CAPTAIN GUTS!!


YOU GUYS...
THE ENEMY WILL COME BACK!!
WE MOVE WHILE IT'S STILL DARK!!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO STAND AROUND!!
UNIT ONE SECURE THE CAMP'S PERIMETER!!
UNITS TWO AND THREE CARRY OUT THE ARMS AND PROVISIONS THAT WEREN'T BURNED!!
EVERYONE ELSE GATHER UP THE HORSES THAT RAN OFF!! HURRY!!

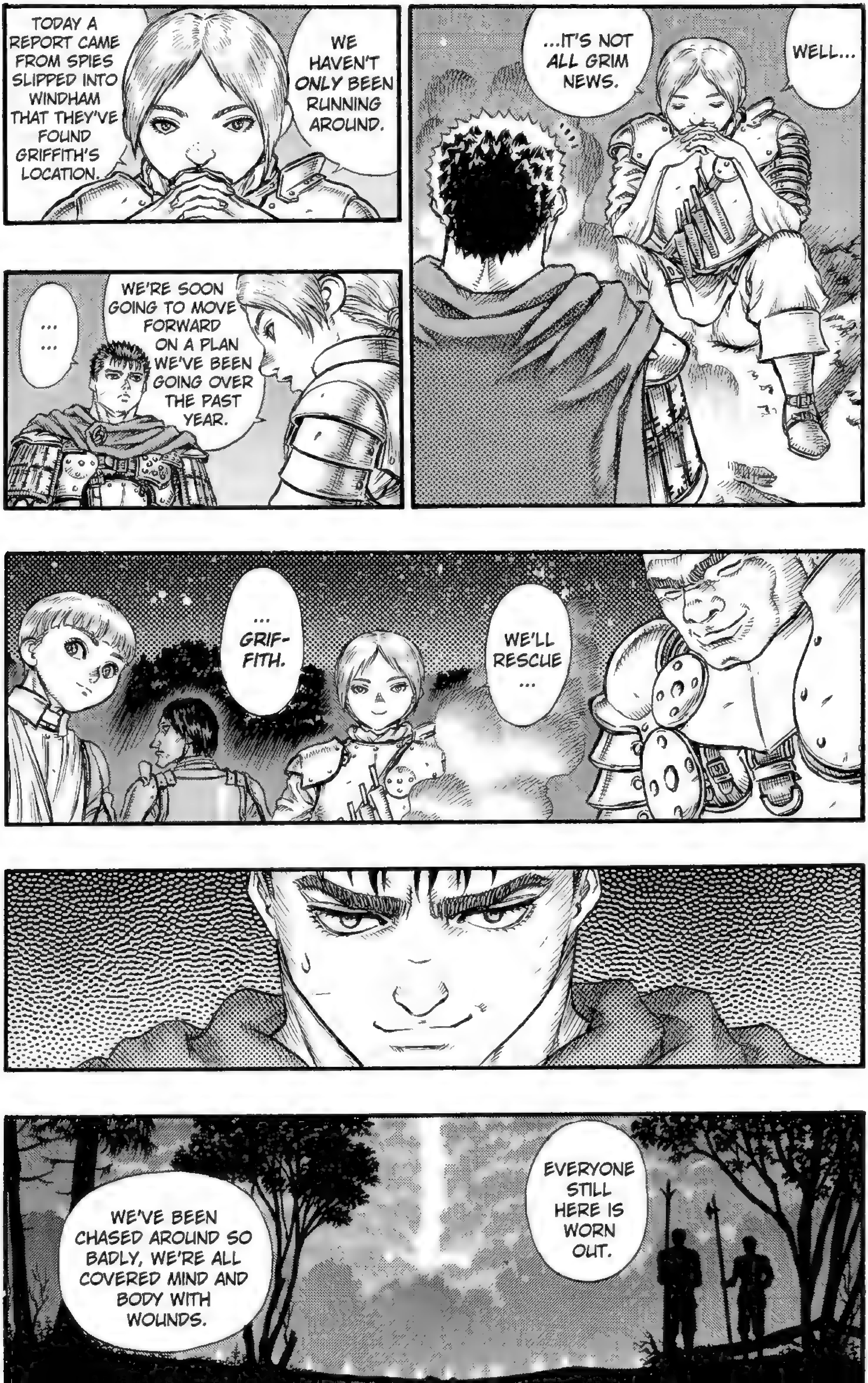
CASCA ...
WE'LL TALK LATER.
SHE'S RIGHT.
WE NEED TO HURRY.

GRIF...
GRIFFITH WAS...
IT HAPPENED A YEAR AGO, THE DAY AFTER YOU LEFT.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT...
...THAT GRIFFITH WOULD...
WHY...
... ...
AFTER YOU LEFT...
...GRIFFITH WAS *REALLY* DEPRESSED.
WHAT I THINK IS...
...IT *MUST* HAVE BEEN OVER YOU, GUTS...

……
……
HEH...IN ONE NIGHT THE GLORIOUS BAND OF THE HAWK...
...THE MIGHTIEST MILITARY FORCE IN MIDLAND, BECAME A WANTED BAND OF THIEVES. IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE ME LAUGH.
BUT, HEY ...
DON'T LET IT GO TO YOUR HEAD.

THE REASON THIS HAPPENED TO GRIFFITH...
...AIN'T BECAUSE A' YOU.
NO WAY.
NOT A CHANCE.
......
IN ONE YEAR WE'VE DROPPED TO LESS THAN A FIFTH IN NUMBER.
SOME FELL TO THE ENEMY, SOME LEFT ON THEIR OWN...WE CAN'T EVEN BE CALLED AN ARMY ANYMORE.
BUT IT *STILL* COULD'VE BEEN WORSE.
IF *CASCA* HADN'T BECOME OUR LEADER...
...BY NOW A BAND OF THE HAWK WITHOUT GRIFFITH WOULD HAVE SCATTERED TO THE WINDS...THE BAND *ITSELF* WOULDN'T EXIST.
......
SHE DID?
NOT JUST THAT...I THINK WE WOULD HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT THAT DAY IF...
...IF *CASCA* HADN'T TAKEN COMMAND.

SHE WAS AMAZING... WITHOUT ANY WEAPONS, SURROUNDED BY CLOSE TO TEN TIMES OUR NUMBER...
SHE RALLIED EVERYONE, ON THE VERGE OF PANIC WITH ARROWS COMING DOWN LIKE RAIN, AND LED THE VANGUARD IN BREAKING THROUGH ONE SIDE OF THE NET.
SHE CONTINUED TO COMMAND US ALL TO THE END, NOT LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS EVEN WITH FIVE ARROW WOUNDS.
......!!
SO, SINCE THEN CASCA HAS BEEN ACTING AS OUR LEADER.
NOT ONE PERSON OPPOSED IT, AFTER THAT TERRIFIC DEED.
TO BE HONEST I THINK IT'S A LITTLE UNFAIR TO HER.
BUT WE'VE GOT NO ROOM FOR ANY OTHER OPTION.
IF WE'RE TO...
...IF THE HAWKS ARE TO SURVIVE.


WELL...
...IT'S NOT ALL GRIM NEWS.
WE HAVEN'T ONLY BEEN RUNNING AROUND.
TODAY A REPORT CAME FROM SPIES SLIPPED INTO WINDHAM THAT THEY'VE FOUND GRIFFITH'S LOCATION.
WE'RE SOON GOING TO MOVE FORWARD ON A PLAN WE'VE BEEN GOING OVER THE PAST YEAR.
......
WE'LL RESCUE...
...GRIFFITH.
EVERYONE STILL HERE IS WORN OUT.
WE'VE BEEN CHASED AROUND SO BADLY, WE'RE ALL COVERED MIND AND BODY WITH WOUNDS.

BUT THERE'S NO ONE LEFT WHO WOULD TRY TO LEAVE.
NO ONE'S BEEN COERCED INTO STAYING, EITHER.
IN THE END, EVERYONE HERE IS, FOR BETTER OR WORSE, A HAWK TO THE CORE.
COURAGE AND WILLPOWER ALONE AREN'T ABOUT TO CUT IT, ESPECIALLY NOT NOW...
WE DON'T GO JUST TO SAVE GRIFFITH.
WE CAN'T GET STARTED AGAIN WITHOUT HIM.
......
パチ

IT'S A GOOD THING.
HUH ...?
Y'KNOW ...
...WHEN THE PLACE YOU COME BACK TO HASN'T CHANGED...
...IT'S A GOOD THING.
... ...
...
ON THAT NOTE ...
...WHAT'VE YOU BEEN DOING THIS PAST YEAR?
HAVEN'T RUMORS ABOUT THE HAWKS SPREAD TO OTHER COUNTRIES? HOW COME YOU DIDN'T COME SOONER...?
OWW!
Y--
YEAH, RIGHT!
I'M SORRY, RICKERT. I REALLY DIDN'T KNOW.
BUT HOW? WERE YOU ON A DESERTED ISLAND OR SOMETHING?

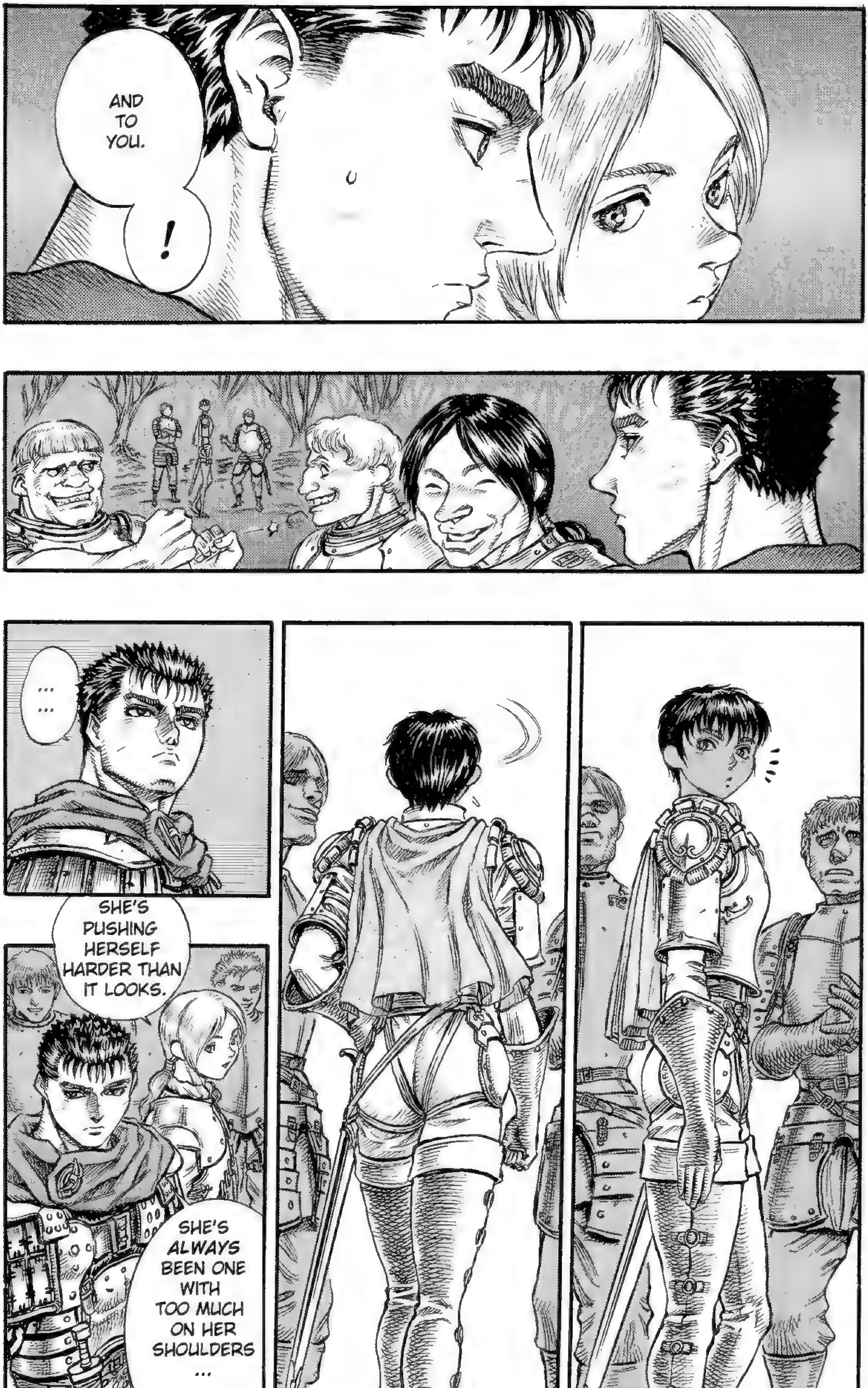
I WENT INTO THE MOUNTAINS...
...AND SWUNG THIS SWORD.
MOUNTAIN TRAINING...
PRACTICALLY WAS A DESERTED ISLAND...
WOW... THAT'S PRETTY OLD-FASHIONED.
BUT, WELL, I GUESS IT'S YOUR THING.
YOU MUST BE REALLY CRAZY ABOUT IT.
...
HE'S JUST PLAIN CRAZY.
SO... DID YOU FIND IT? YOU KNOW...
...
HONESTLY...
...I STILL DON'T KNOW.
BUT...
...I FOUND OUT ONE THING.
NO...
I FELT IT.

SEEMS LIKE, FOR ME...
...NOTHING BUT WIELDING THIS...
...REALLY FEELS TRUE.
THERE'RE NO OTHER ANSWERS. IT FEELS NATURAL.
?
......
IF YOU CAN SAY THAT WITH A STRAIGHT FACE...
...THEN WELL DONE.
ANYWAY, YOU'RE COMING BACK...
...IS PROOF WE STILL HAD SOME LUCK LEFT.
I HOPE YOU'LL HELP US...
... RAIDERS CAPTAIN.

Y'MEAN FORMER RAIDERS CAPTAIN.
COR-KUUS...
...
I WON'T RECOGNIZE IT.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS FOR SOME DREAM OR WHAT, BUT HE LEFT ON HIS OWN.
HE WASN'T HERE WHEN THINGS WERE AT THEIR WORST FOR US. THINK I CAN CALL SOMEONE LIKE THAT A COMRADE?
WELL, EVEN IF I CLOSE MY EYES TO THE PAST, RIGHT NOW AS STRANGERS GO, YOU'RE THE REAL DEAL.
AT LEAST GET THAT STRAIGHT.
C'MON, CORKUS...
......
...YEAH.

I GET IT.
......
KEH!
!
CAPTAIN!!
HOW LONG'RE YOU GONNA TALK ABOUT THIS STUFF?
COME ON OVER AND LET'S HAVE A DRINK.
GUYS...
OH YEAH, GASTON.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR CLOTHING SHOP IN WINDHAM...?
YEAH, ABOUT THAT. I RAN OUT ON IT.
Y'KNOW, WHEN I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO THESE GUYS I COULDN'T JUST STAY THERE...
HEH, ALL IT DID WAS FRUSTRATE ME.

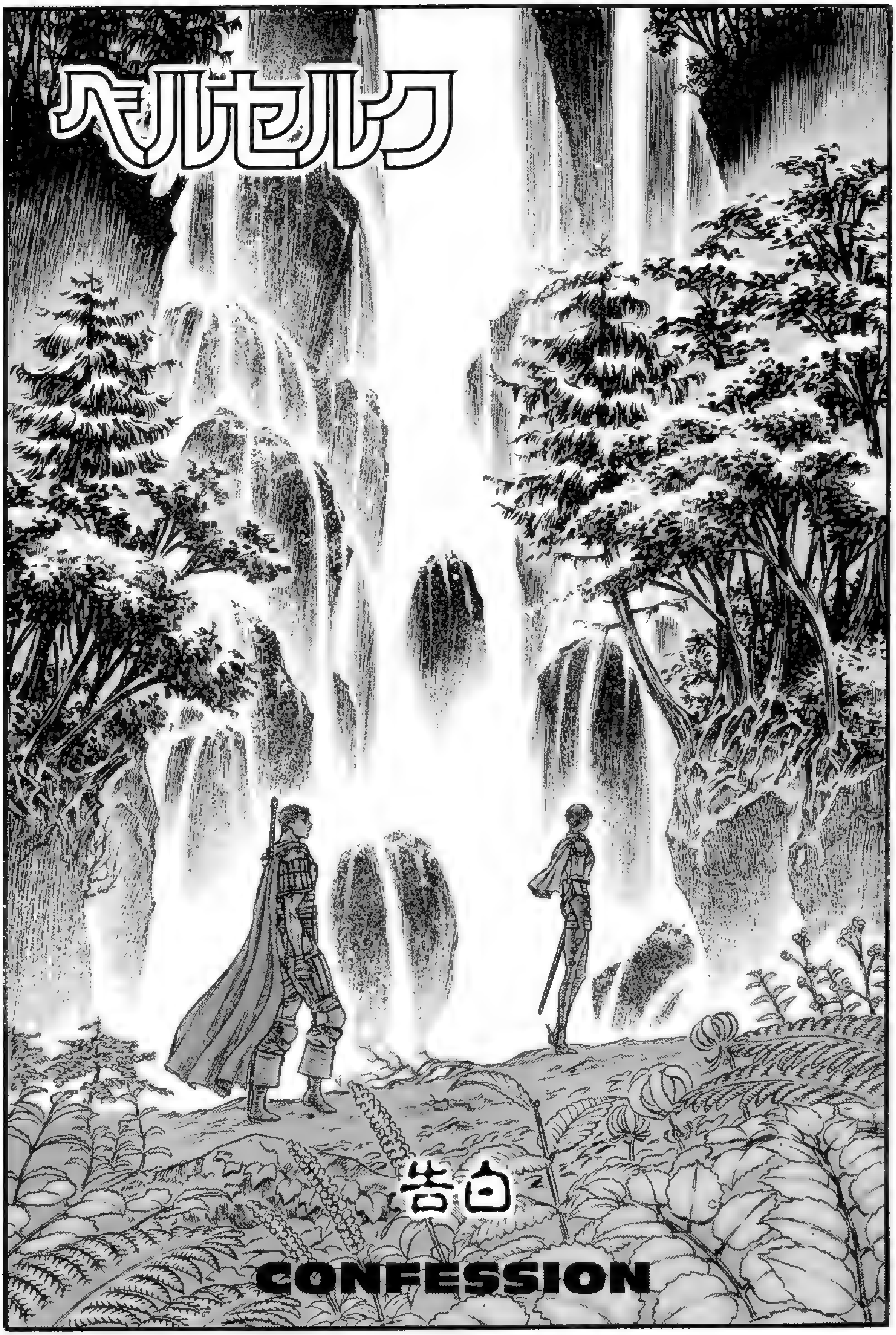
SAME FOR YOU, RIGHT, CAPTAIN?
WAIT A MINUTE.
BEFORE THAT...
グイ
WHAT?
ABOUT CASCA.
!
THANKS TO THOSE WOUNDS A YEAR AGO...
...SHE SPENT THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN A COMATOSE STATE NEAR DEATH.
DURING THAT TIME SHE HAD NIGHTMARES AND CALLED OUT OVER AND OVER...
...TO GRIFFITH.


AND TO YOU.
!
……
SHE'S PUSHING HERSELF HARDER THAN IT LOOKS.
SHE'S *ALWAYS* BEEN ONE WITH TOO MUCH ON HER SHOULDERS…

BUT THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO. YOU CAN.
……
?
……
ザッ!

COME WITH...
...ME FOR A BIT.
......

COMRADES IN ARMS: END


ベルセルク
告白
CONFESSION

DEFEND YOURSELF.
EH?
H-HEY, HOLD ON.
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
WE'VE HARDLY SPOKEN IN A YEAR AND WE'RE JUST GONNA HAVE AT IT?
WELL, THIS'S LIKE YOU...
...BUT YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING.

O...
O...
......

T-TIME OUT!
HOLD ON...
HEY!!
THAT STRIKE...
YOU REALLY TRIED TO KILL ME!!
SHE'S SERIOUS!!

ドン
DON'T MESS AROUND!
OY OY!
DRAW YOUR SWORD!!

WHAT THE HELL'S WITH YOU?
RECKLESS AS EVER, I SEE...
TELL ME WHY!
IT'S A LITTLE MUCH FOR YOU TO TRY TO KILL ME WHEN WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN A YEAR!
...
WHY DID YOU COME BACK NOW...?
IT'S YOUR...
...FAULT!!
IT'S YOUR FAULT.
YOU DESTROYED...
...ALL OF IT!!

....MINE?
YES.
GRIFFITH.
THE HAWKS.
EVERY-THING!
YOU MESSED IT ALL UP!!
I...
HOW...?
......!!

BECAUSE YOU LEFT US!!
BECAUSE YOU ABANDONED GRIFFITH...!!
WAIT A MINUTE!!
YOU CAN'T...
...BE SERIOUS.
THIS IS GRIFFITH...
HE--
GRIFFITH... BECAUSE I LEFT...
THERE'S NO WAY THINGS COULD GO WRONG JUST FROM THAT, RIGHT...?
IT COULDN'T BE...
YOU REALLY ARE A COMPLETE ...
...FOOL.

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU!!
BACK THEN!!
THAT SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING...
...IF IT'S GRAND, ENDURES...
...THAT MUCH MORE THAN OTHER PEOPLE DO.
GRIF-FITH...
...HAD TO MAKE HIMSELF STRONG!!
YOU!!
YOU MADE GRIFFITH WEAK!!
HE'S NO...
BUT GRIFFTH ISN'T A GOD...!!
A PERSON'S HEART CAN'T BE SUSTAINED BY IDEALS AND DREAMS ALONE!!

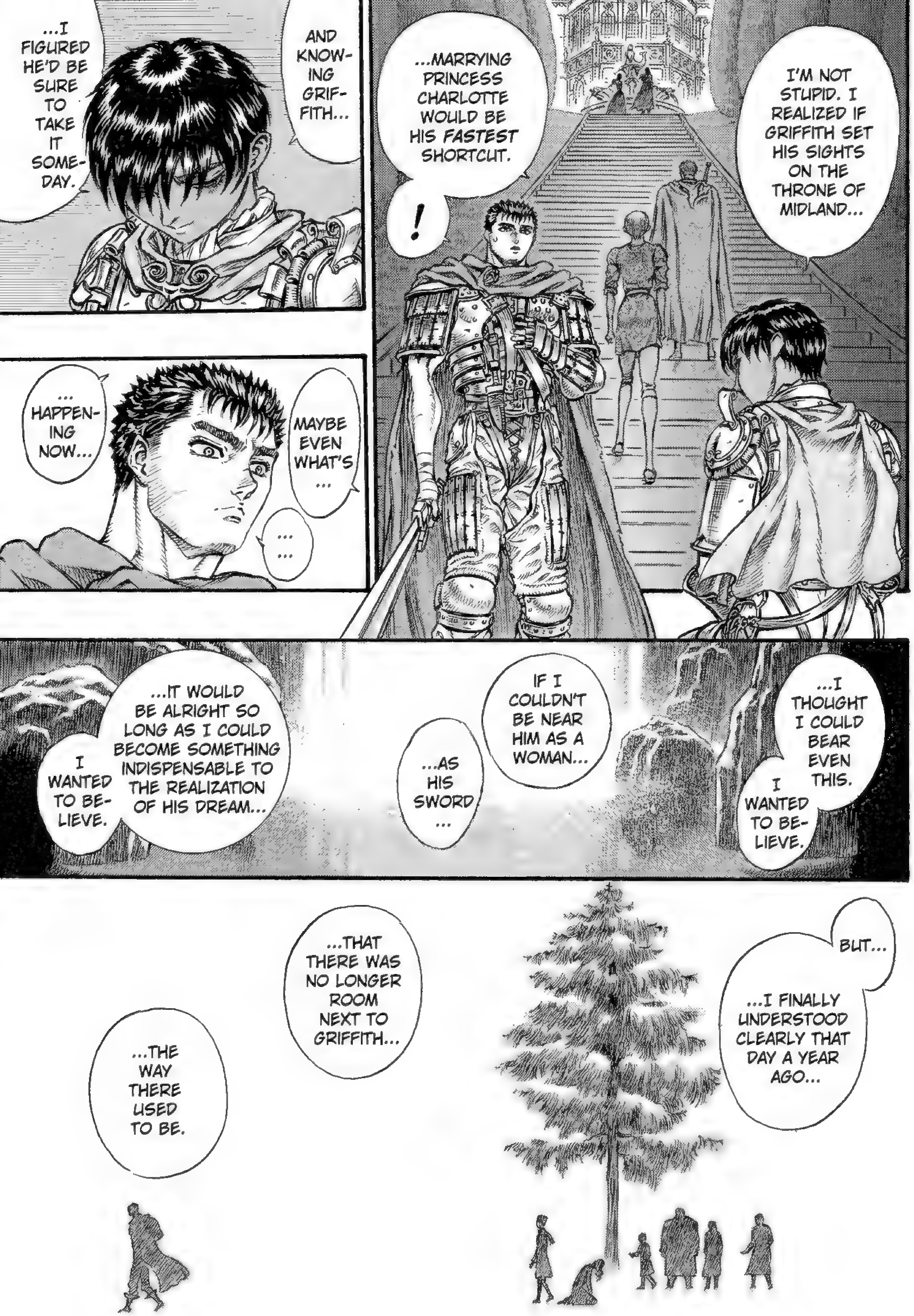
GRIFFITH'S ...
...NO GOOD WITHOUT YOU!!!

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DODGE...
THAT'S CRAZY...
WHY...?
ギッ..
LET GO...
THAT'S ENOUGH...
BLEEDING...
ポタ.

THEN...
...WHAT ELSE SHOULD I HAVE DONE?
ポタ ポタ
...IDIOT.
LET GO...!!
I ONLY DID WHAT...
...GRIFFITH WOULD HAVE DONE.
IF WE DON'T STANCH THE BLEEDING...
I JUST...
...DID MY OWN THING.
WHAT ELSE SHOULD I HAVE DONE?
LET GO...
ドクッ
ALRIGHT, I GET IT...!!
LET GO, YOU FOOL!!

ズル…
ザァァァ!!
ザッ
ザァアア・ア・ア…
…HMHM
HMHM…
……
AHAHA…
I KNOW…
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS RIGHT…
REALLY, I DO.
BUT…
…I JUST…
…CAN'T…
…TAKE IT ANYMORE.

......
I TOLD YOU BEFORE.
THAT I WANT TO BE BESIDE GRIFFITH...
THAT I WANT TO BE HIS SWORD.
YEAH, I REMEMBER.
THAT...
...WASN'T TRUE.
THAT...
THE ME WHO WISHED TO BECOME THAT WAY...
...WAS BLUFFING.
I'M SURE I GENUINELY MEANT IT AT FIRST...
BUT ONE DAY I REALIZED...
HOW EASY WOULD IT BE...
...IF I COULD JUST MAKE MY HEART FEEL THE WAY I WANT IT TO?
...GRIFFITH'S NOT A GOD...
...AND I AM A WOMAN.


I'M NOT STUPID. I REALIZED IF GRIFFITH SET HIS SIGHTS ON THE THRONE OF MIDLAND...
...MARRYING PRINCESS CHARLOTTE WOULD BE HIS *FASTEST* SHORTCUT.
!
AND KNOWING GRIFFITH...
...I FIGURED HE'D BE SURE TO TAKE IT SOMEDAY.
MAYBE EVEN WHAT'S...
...HAPPENING NOW...
......
...I THOUGHT I COULD BEAR EVEN THIS.
I WANTED TO BELIEVE.
IF I COULDN'T BE NEAR HIM AS A WOMAN...
...AS HIS SWORD...
...IT WOULD BE ALRIGHT SO LONG AS I COULD BECOME SOMETHING INDISPENSABLE TO THE REALIZATION OF HIS DREAM...
I WANTED TO BELIEVE.
BUT...
...I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY THAT DAY A YEAR AGO...
...THAT THERE WAS NO LONGER ROOM NEXT TO GRIFFITH...
...THE WAY THERE USED TO BE.

MY DREAM...
...HAD...
...ALREADY ENDED.
......
I CAN'T...
...DO IT ANYMORE.
DESPERATELY TRYING TO PROTECT THE BAND OF THE HAWK...
IT'S LIKE I WAS GOING TO DISAPPEAR IF I DIDN'T AT LEAST CLING TO SOME FRUITLESS HOPE...
BUT ENOUGH'S ENOUGH...
I COULDN'T BE A WOMAN.
OR SOMETHING INVALUABLE.
TO KEEP ON PROTECTING THE ALMOST BROKEN DREAM OF SOMEONE WHO MIGHT NOT EVEN BE ALIVE...
I JUST...
...CAN'T...

I'M SO TIRED...
YOU...
...DO THE REST.
O--
ザァァァーァァァァ

AND THERE WAS ONE MORE...
ONE MORE THING I REALIZED THAT DAY.
THOUGH HE DESTROYED EVERYTHING...
THOUGH HE TOOK IT ALL FROM ME...
EVEN THOUGH I HATE HIM...
EVEN NOW...

...THOUGH I FEEL LIKE I WANT TO KILL HIM.
...!!
ギリッ
ガシッ
ズザザザザッ
....

...!!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU THINKIN'...
LOOK HERE!! DON'T YOU EVER GO NEAR A CLIFF AGAIN!!
...
I CAN'T DEAL WITH BEIN' DRAGGED OFF TWO OR THREE TIMES!!
YOU FOOL....
OW.
YOU'RE ALWAYS...
...GETTING HURT.
ALWAYS ...
...BECAUSE OF ME.
YOU'RE ...
...ALWAYS BLEEDING.
......
YOU'RE SUCH...

...A FOOL.
...
...
FOOL.
....

…
CONFESSION: END

I FINALLY REALIZED THAT DAY...
...THAT MORE THAN GRIFFITH, BROUGHT TO HIS KNEES FROM HIS FIRST DEFEAT...
...I COULDN'T TEAR MY EYES AWAY FROM HIM...
...AS HE LEFT, WITHOUT EVEN LOOKING BACK.
ベルセルク
THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT WHAT I HAD BECOME.
IT WAS LIKE THE ME I HAD BEEN SINCE I MET GRIFFITH...... LIKE THE FEELINGS I'D HAD SINCE THEN WOULD ALL BE FALSE.
AFRAID OF ALL THAT, I'VE LIVED BY MY SWORD, WITH THE INTENT OF SACRIFICING MYSELF FOR MY UNREQUITED FEELINGS FOR GRIFFITH.
THERE IS NO FALSEHOOD IN THE WAY I LIVE. THAT ALONE WAS MY PRIDE...
BECAUSE IT'S WHAT GRIFFITH GAVE TO ME.

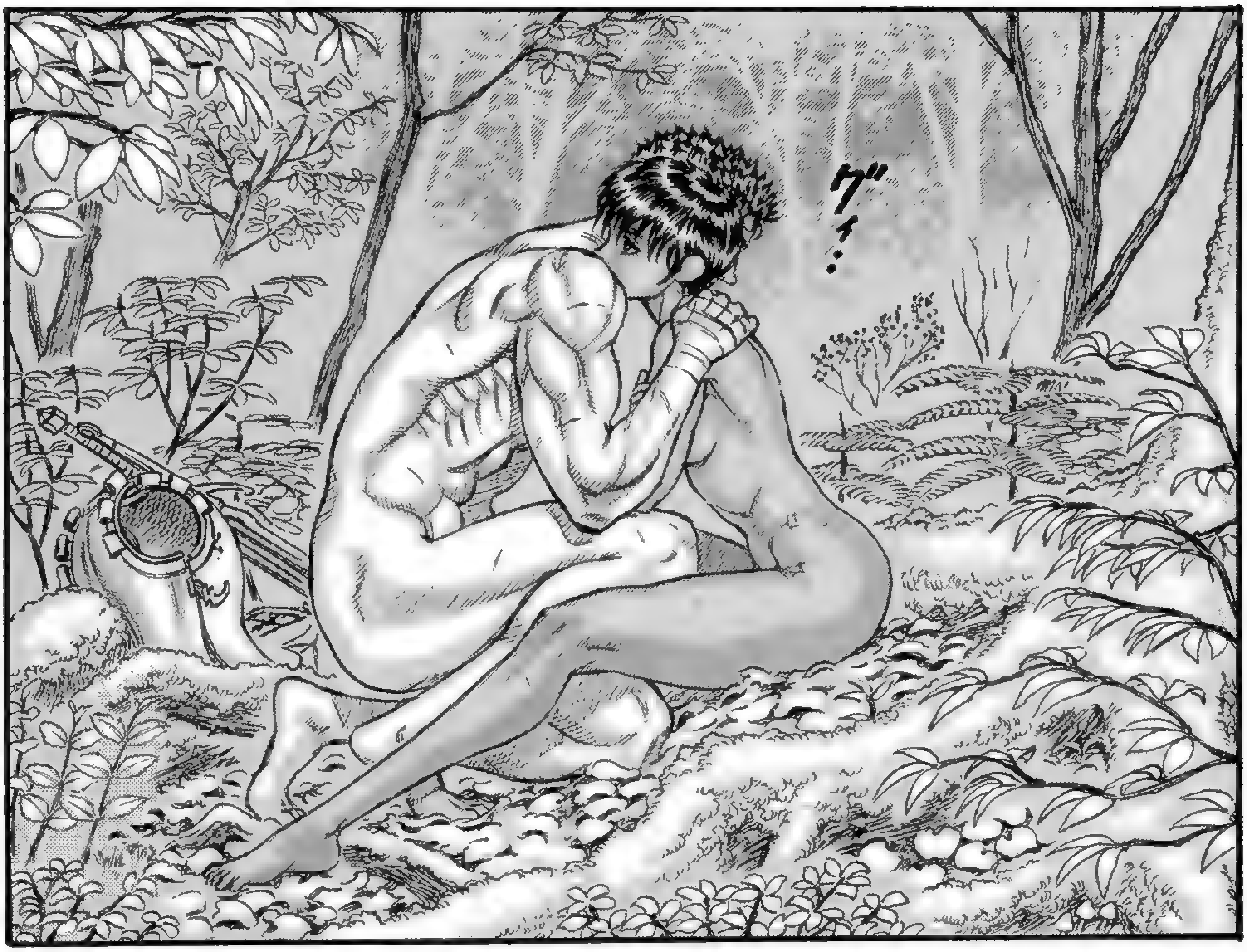
...BUT...
ベルセルク
傷(1)
WOUNDS, CHAPTER 1

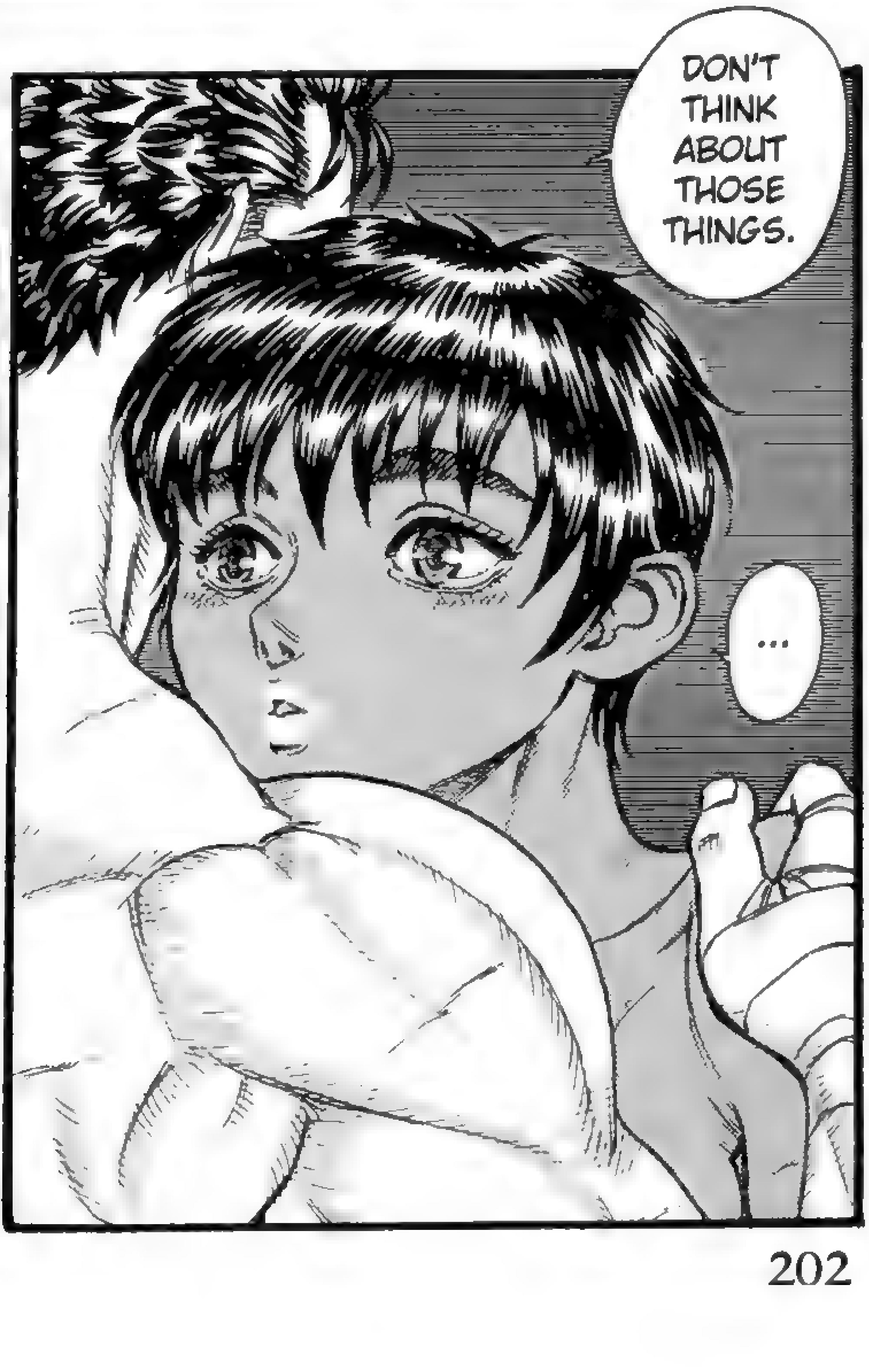
YOU'RE SHAKING.
YOU SCARED?
…… ……
I AM …

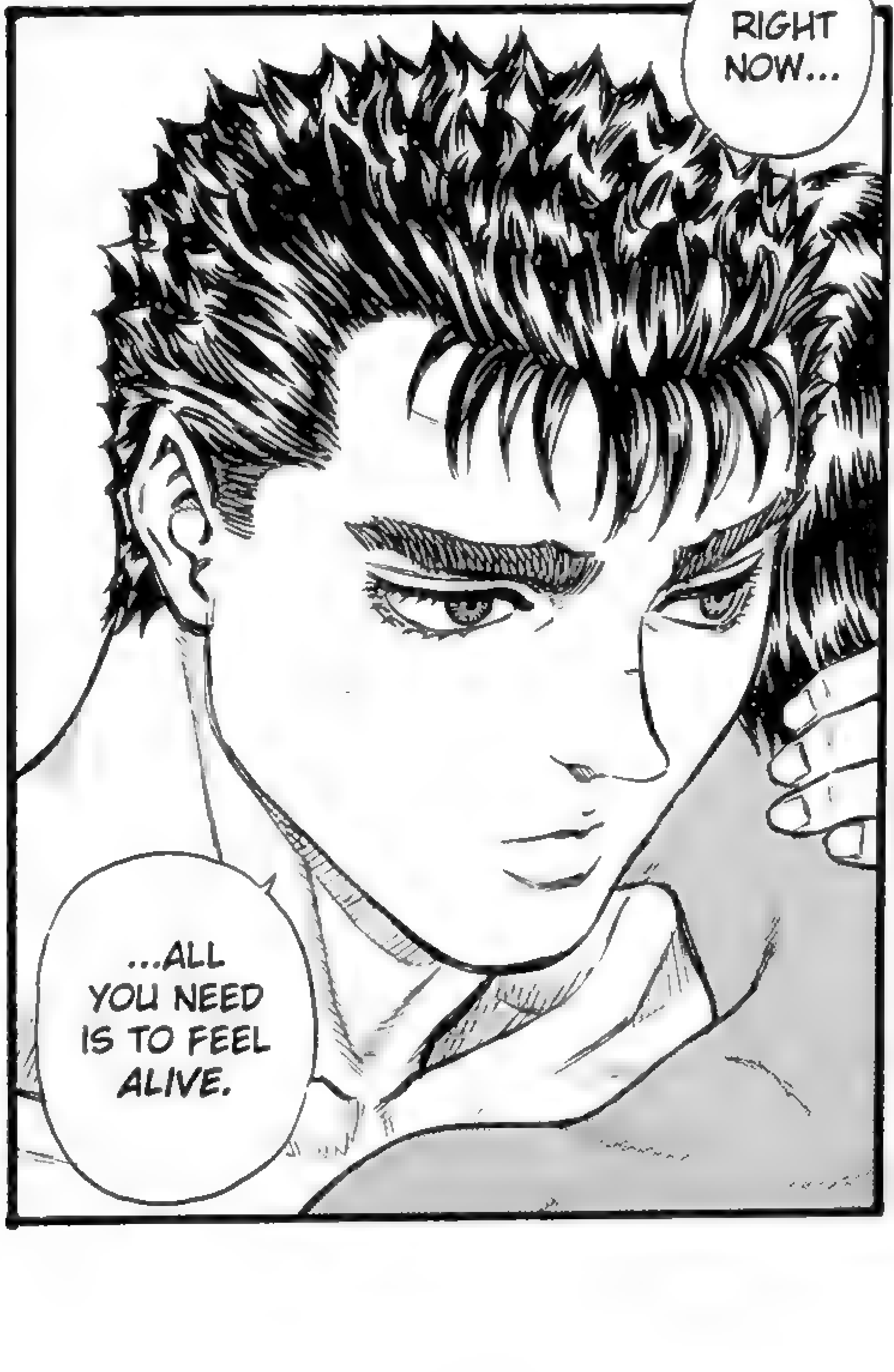
I WONDER...
...IF I'M GOING TO WIND UP CHANGING...
IF BY DOING THIS WITH YOU...
...EVERYTHING FROM YESTERDAY... EVERYTHING I FELT SO DESPERATELY WILL BECOME A LIE...
IT'S LIKE WHAT WAS IMPORTANT...
...WILL FADE AWAY AND BE GONE...
I'M... SUCH A COWARD.

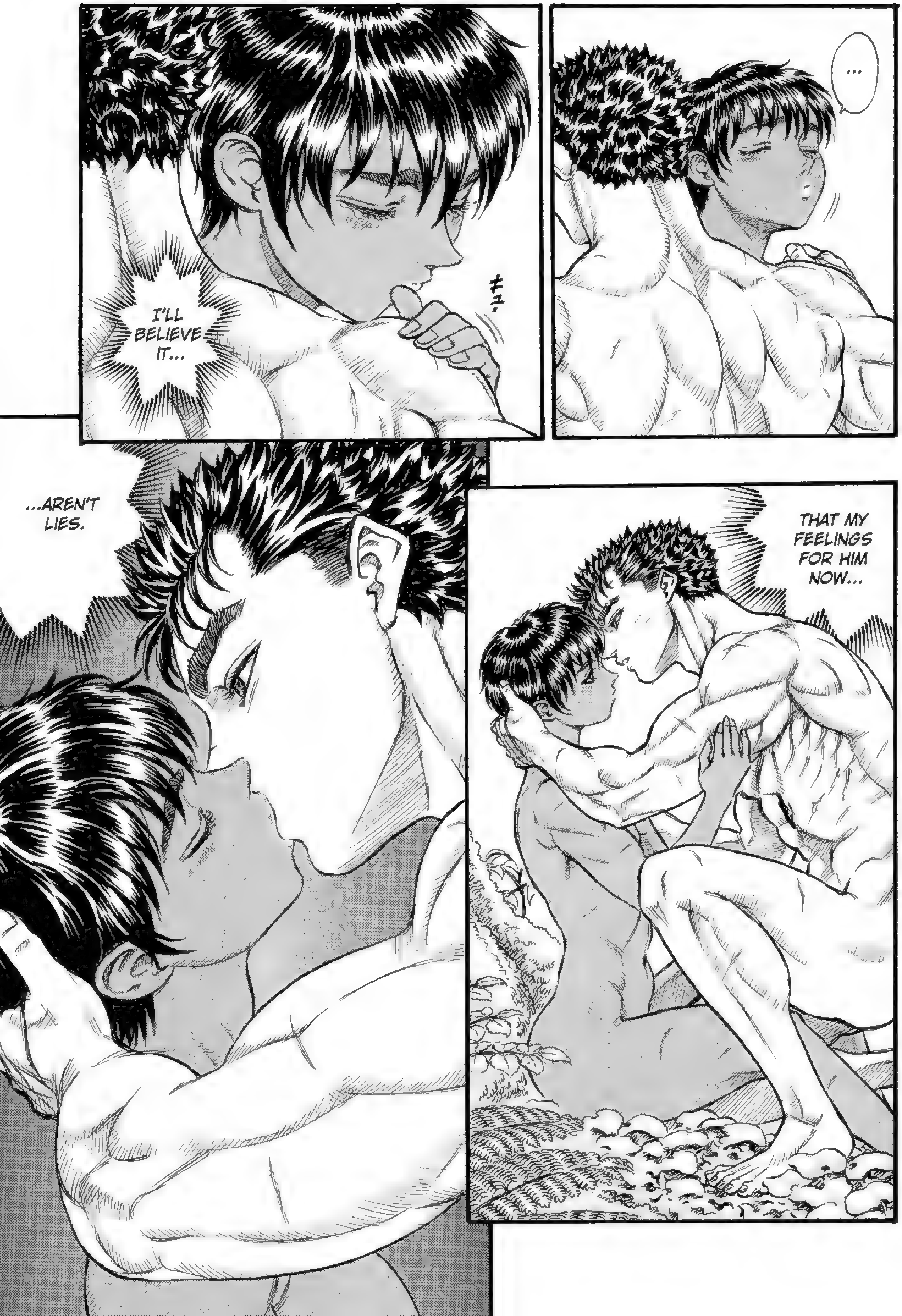
...THESE SCARS.
THEY MUST BE FROM THE ARROWS A YEAR AGO.
THAT AIN'T ALL.
THERE'S LOTS OF LITTLE ONES AND BIG ONES.
...!!
WHAT'S THE POINT IN HIDIN' 'EM NOW?
I'M USED TO 'EM...
THEY'RE LIKE MEDALS FOR MERCENARIES, Y'KNOW?
BUT EVEN I'M--!!
EVEN I'M...
...A WOMAN.

I KNOW THAT!
YOU GET ALL JEALOUS, YOU GET MAD FAST, AND YOU'RE QUICK TO HIT! YOU'RE *PLENTY* WOMANLY.
I FEEL IT TO THE *BONE*.
......
I GET IT, AL-READY.
I KNOW HOW SERIOUS YOU WERE.
NOBODY LIES THEIR WAY...
...INTO A BODY WITH *THIS* MANY SCARS.
I UNDER-STAND.
DID YOU KNOW...
...THE *JINX* OF THE BATTLE-FIELD?
IF YOU SPEND TOO MUCH TIME FOCUSED ON THE DEAD OR BROKEN, YOU'LL FIND *DEATH* PERCHED ON YOUR SHOULDER...
HE WAS ON YOURS EARLIER.


グッ…


DON'T THINK ABOUT THOSE THINGS.
...


RIGHT NOW...
...ALL YOU NEED IS TO FEEL *ALIVE*.


...
I'LL BELIEVE IT...
ギュ
THAT MY FEELINGS FOR HIM NOW...
...AREN'T LIES.

......!!
HH...!
HERE I GO...
...

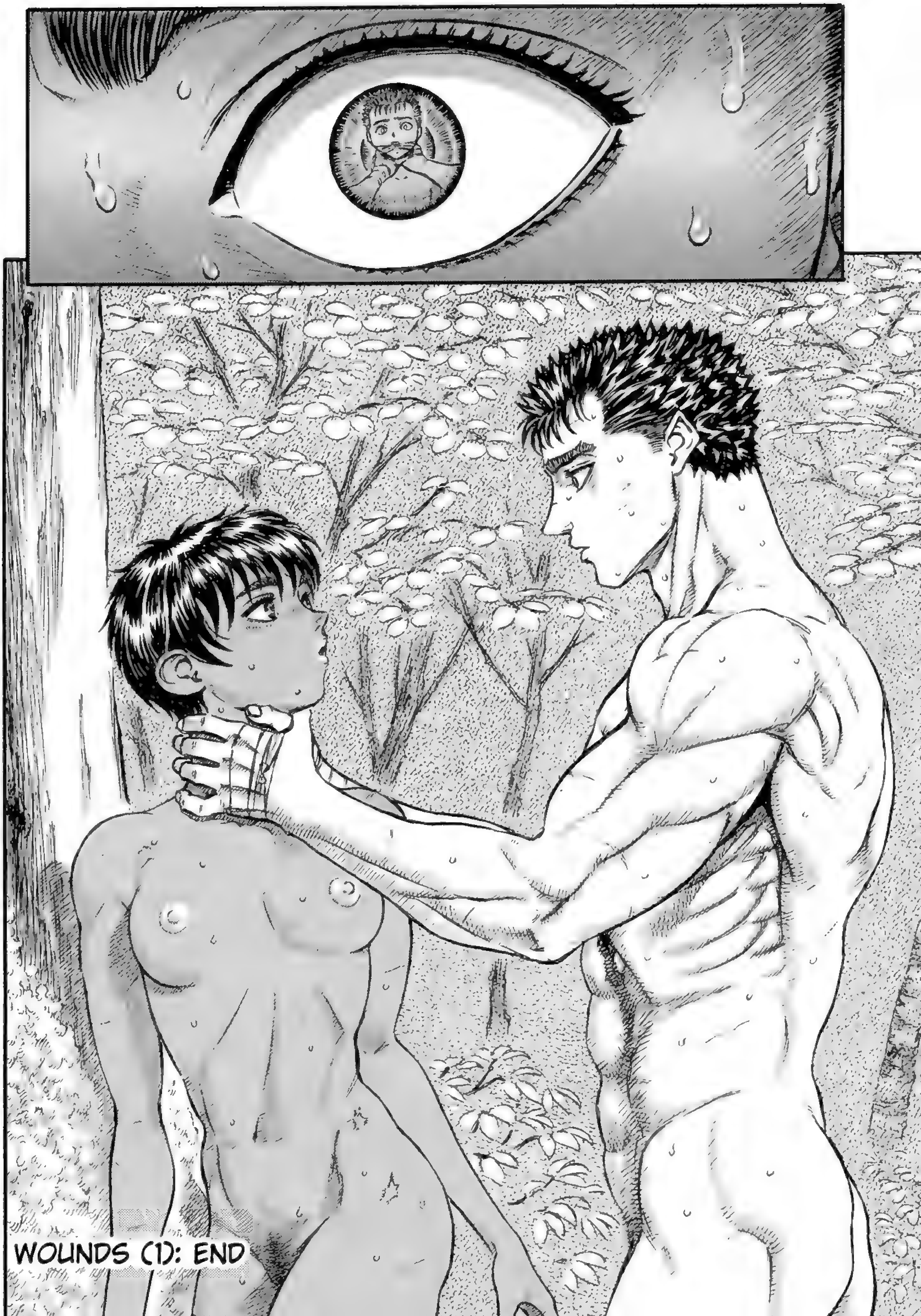
NN..!
W-WAIT...!
PLEASE...!
A LITTLE...
A LITTLE...
...GENTLER.
.......!!
HA.
NUH.

HA.
...NN.
...AAH
......!!

WHU ...
WHU!
HAAH ...
WHA ?!

GAMBINO...
...SOLD YER ASS OUT.
YOU SHOULD HAVE DIED.
....

GUTS?


WOUNDS (1): END

ベルセルク

WOUNDS, CHAPTER 2

YOU...
...SHOULD HAVE DIED.

SHOULD HAVE DIED.

……GAHH!
ビクッ!!
ズル…
……!!

ゴボ
ゴボ
GUTS.
WHY ...?
ガ
ギン
ビク
I DIDN'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN...
I DIDN'T MEAN...
I...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL YOU. GAMBINO...

...
...KILL?
A BIG BLACK SHADOW COVERED OVER ME.
HE FORCED ME...
PINNED DOWN MY ARMS AND LEGS.
I COULDN'T RESIST...
NOT AS A CHILD.
I COULDN'T DO A GODDAMNED THING!!
...
HUHUH...
SO...
...I MURDERED HIM.
MADE IT LOOK LIKE DEATH IN BATTLE...FROM BEHIND WITH A BOWGUN.
THAT PIG BASTARD...!!

...?
GAMBINO ASSAULTED YOU...
...SO YOU KILLED HIM?
NO !!
GAMBINO WAS DIFFERENT ...!!
...?
I NEVER MEANT TO KILL HIM!!
GAMBINO ...!!
HE TOOK ME IN WHEN I WAS A BABY AND ALMOST DEAD.
HE TAUGHT ME THE SWORD.
SO WHY...?!
WHY...?
WHY'D HE SELL ME OUT TO THAT PIG BASTARD...?
!

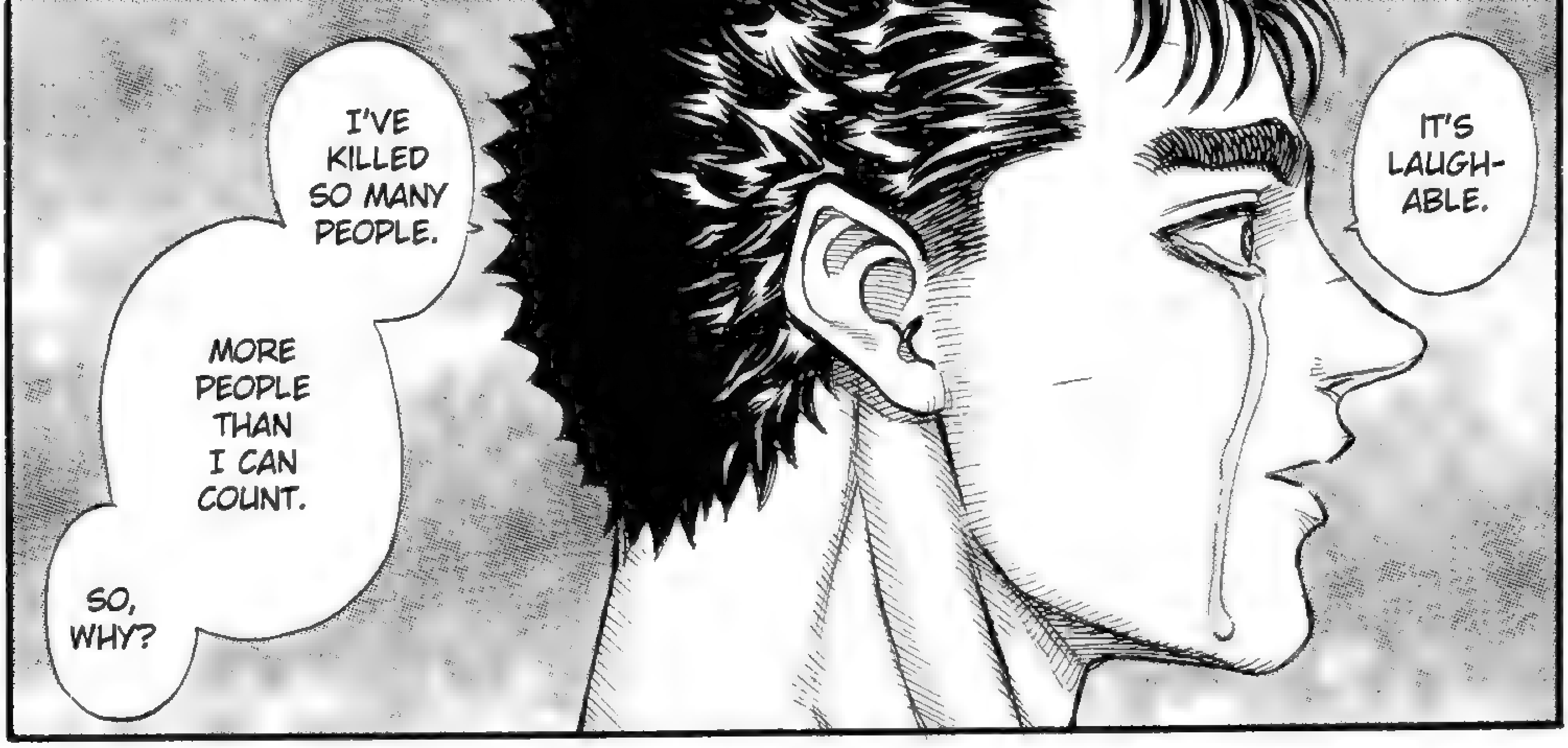
HE WAS ALWAYS DRINKING.
ALWAYS, AFTER HE LOST HIS LEG IN BATTLE...
HE'D TALK TO THIS DOG.
"SHISU, SHISU."
NOT ONCE WOULD HE CALL OUT MY NAME...
HE GOT DRUNK...
...AND SUDDENLY ATTACKED ME.
I THOUGHT HE'D AVOID THE BLOW...
BUT WHEN I LOOKED...
...THERE WAS MY SWORD...
...IN GAMBINO'S THROAT.
MY SWORD...
......!!

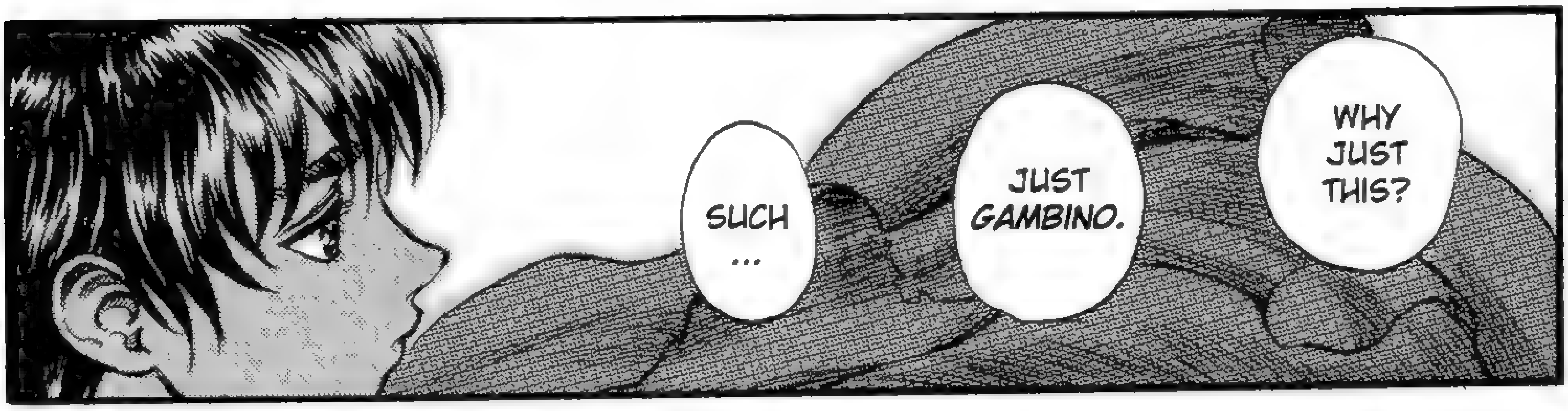
HE TOLD ME I SHOULD HAVE DIED.
HE SAID I SHOULD HAVE DIED ELEVEN YEARS BEFORE, BENEATH MY MOTHER'S CORPSE...
I'M SORRY ...
... GAMBINO.
FATHER ...

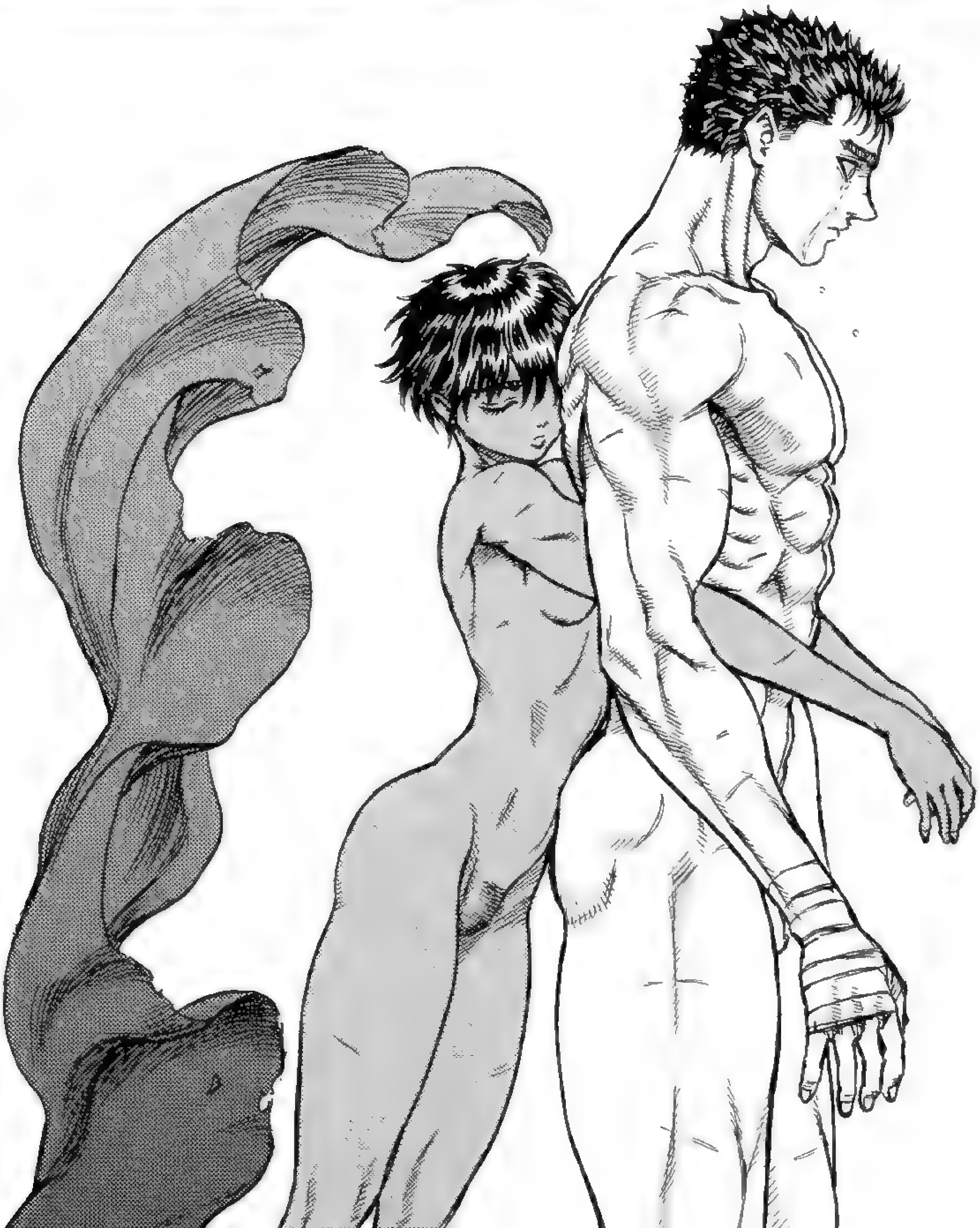
......
ス…
ガバッ
AH...

S... SORRY .....
...
I DID SOMETHIN' HORRIBLE.
I...
SORRY...
THIS ...
...WAS YOUR FIRST TIME.
THROB
THROB
BUT I...
...DID THAT...
GU--
バッ
I CAN'T JUST SAY "FORGET IT"...
...NOW THAT THIS HAS HAPPENED.
I'LL GO NOW IF YOU TELL ME TO GET LOST.
OTHER-WISE, I SWEAR I'LL MAKE IT UP IN BATTLE...

GUTS...
I...
...KILLED MY FATHER.
YOU...
YES.
ザアアア…アアアア…
I MEANT TO GET OVER IT...
...A LONG TIME AGO.
THIS PAST YEAR...
...I DIDN'T REMEMBER IT ONE TIME.
WHY'D IT COME BACK NOW?


IT'S LAUGHABLE.
I'VE KILLED SO MANY PEOPLE.
MORE PEOPLE THAN I CAN COUNT.
SO, WHY?

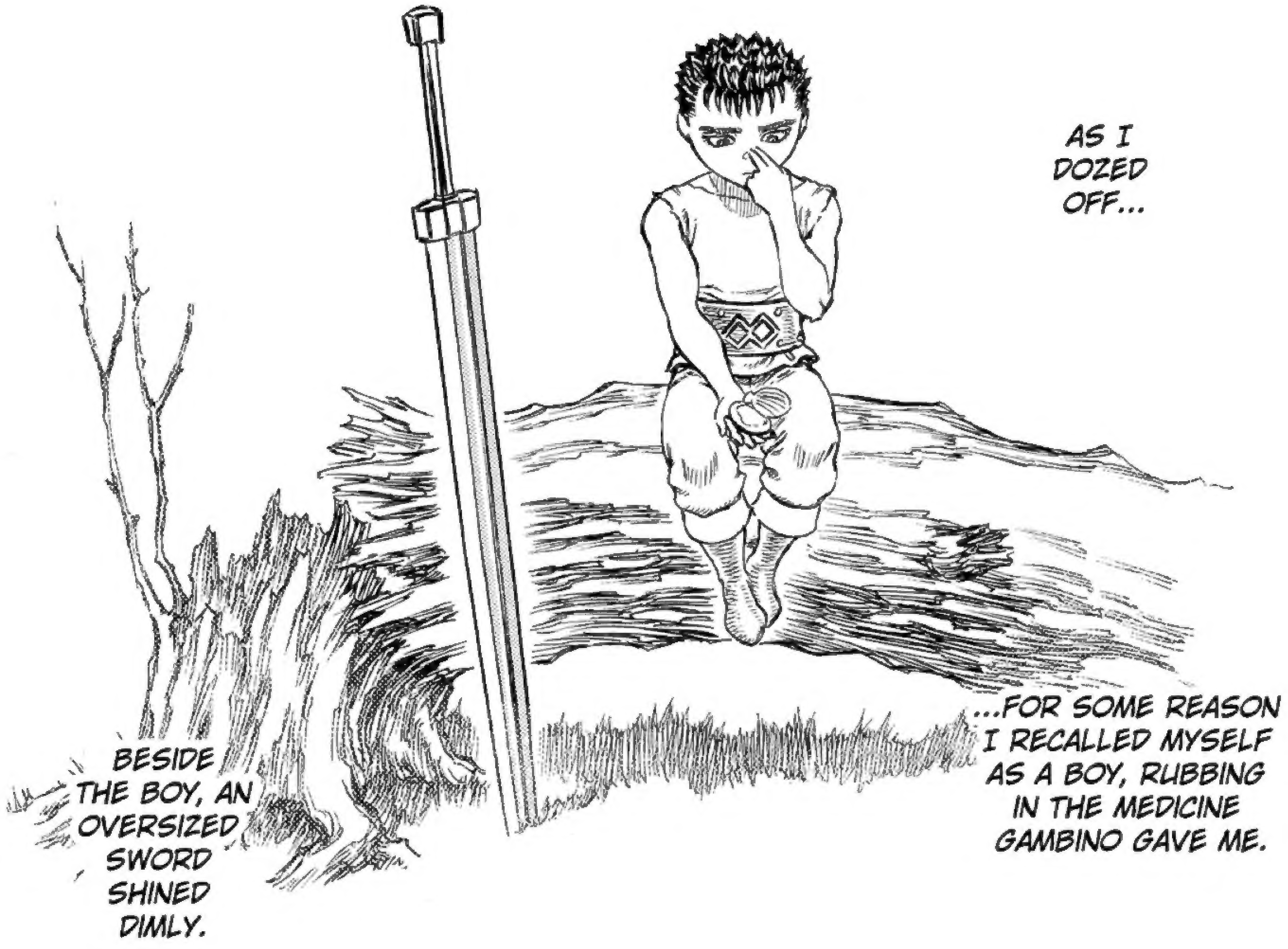

WHY JUST THIS?
JUST GAMBINO.
SUCH ...

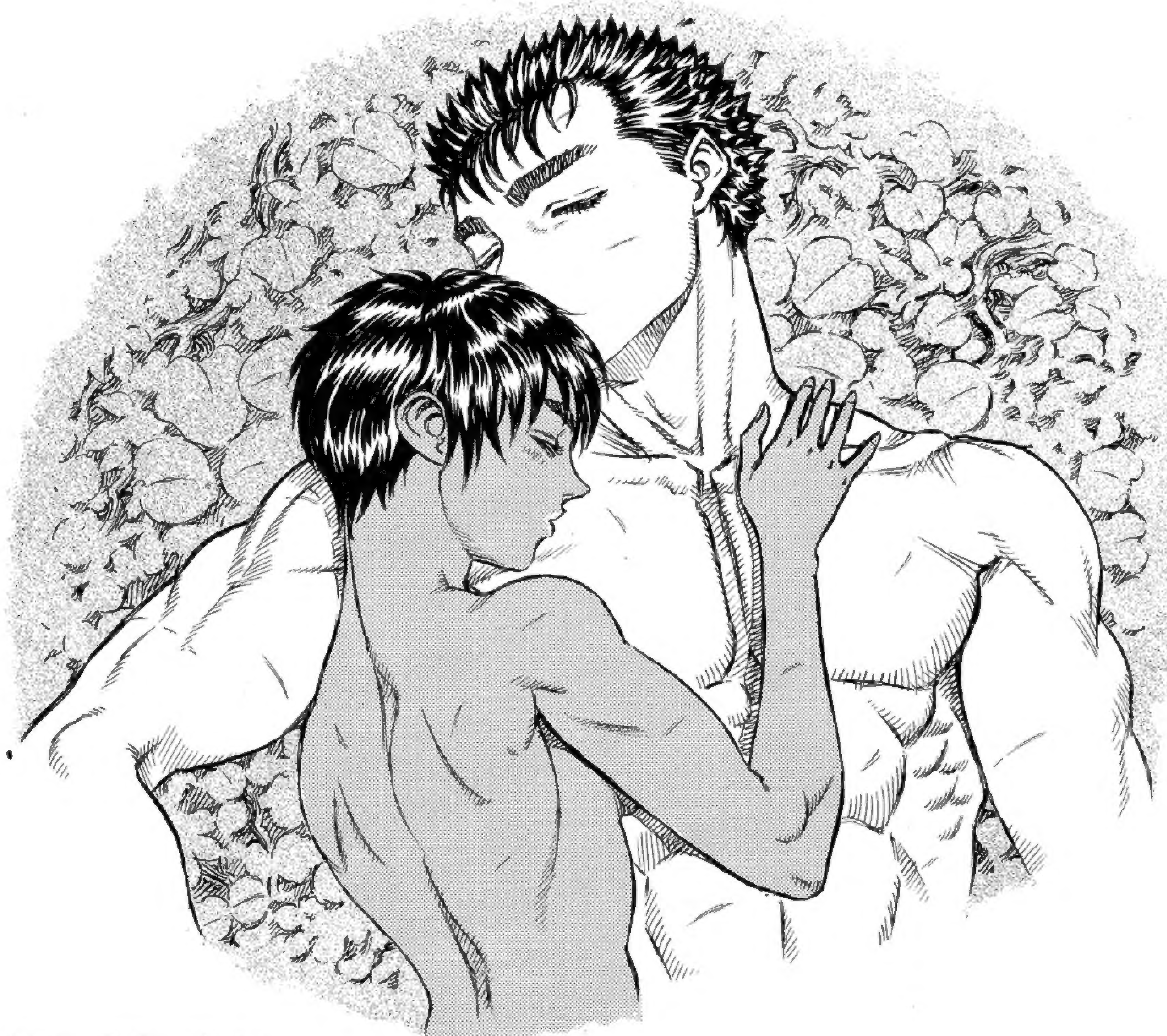


FINE.
EVEN IF THAT'S ALL IT IS...
......
FORGET ABOUT IT... IT'D JUST BE US LICKING EACH OTHERS' WOUNDS.
FINE.
THESE ARE WOUNDS FROM THE HUNDRED-MAN BATTLE, RIGHT ...?
YOU BLED SO MUCH FOR ME.
......
SOMEHOW I FEEL LIKE WE'RE FINALLY EVEN.
I'VE ALREADY SHOWN YOU EVERYTHING...
ALL MY WEAKNESSES HAVE BEEN LAID BARE FOR YOU...

EVEN THE WOUND I GAVE YOU...
ペロ
LICKING WOUNDS IS GOOD ENOUGH.
I TOO WANT A WOUND...
...THAT I CAN SAY YOU GAVE ME.

I WILL CHANGE ...
MAYBE MY PLACE...
...IS WITHIN THIS MAN'S HEART.
NOT JUST BEING GIVEN TO...
...MAYBE I CAN GIVE SOMETHIING AS WELL.


AS I DOZED OFF...
...FOR SOME REASON I RECALLED MYSELF AS A BOY, RUBBING IN THE MEDICINE GAMBINO GAVE ME.
BESIDE THE BOY, AN OVERSIZED SWORD SHINED DIMLY.

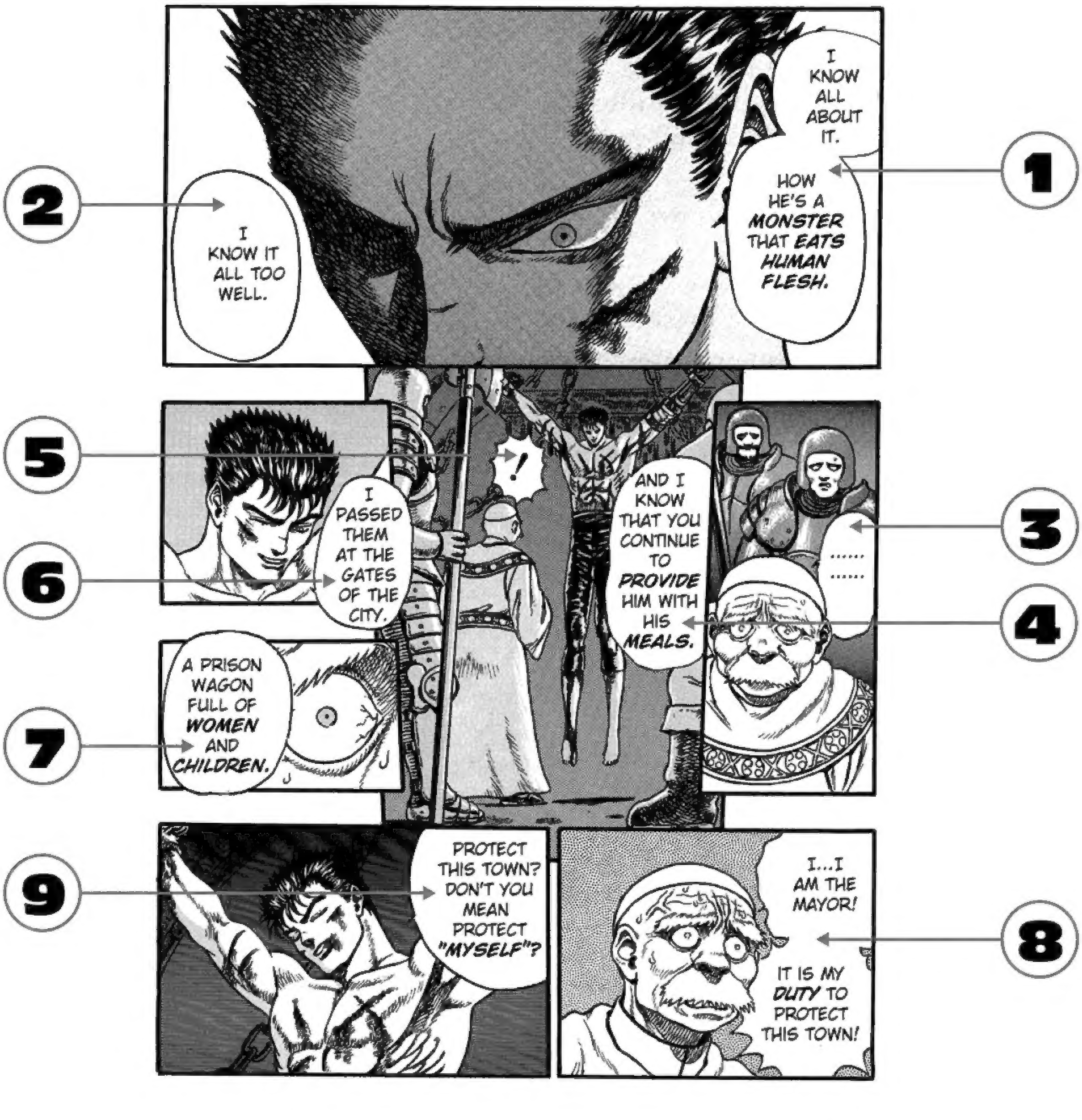


WOUNDS (2): END

STOP

This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!


1
I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
HOW HE'S A MONSTER THAT EATS HUMAN FLESH.
2
I KNOW IT ALL TOO WELL.
3
....
4
AND I KNOW THAT YOU CONTINUE TO PROVIDE HIM WITH HIS MEALS.
5
!
6
I PASSED THEM AT THE GATES OF THE CITY.
7
A PRISON WAGON FULL OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
8
I...I AM THE MAYOR!
IT IS MY DUTY TO PROTECT THIS TOWN!
9
PROTECT THIS TOWN? DON'T YOU MEAN PROTECT "MYSELF"?

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

BERSERK

KENTARO MIURA 9 ベルセルク 三浦建太郎

Griffith, charismatic leader of the elite mercenary Band of the Hawk, has seen better days. His fearless champion, Guts, has left the Band, defeating Griffith in personal combat as his ticket out. With his judgment clouded by this unthinkable humiliation, Griffith eases his pain in the arms of the daughter of Midland's king. But the King doesn't take kindly to an employee picking the royal flowers, and the next stop for Griffith is the dungeon and the torture rack! Without Griffith and Guts, the Hawks become easy prey for Midland's army, and the AWOL Guts may be the only answer to the Hawks'—and Griffith's—lethal problems.

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is a bleeding-edge manga battering ram, an epic fantasy of intense action, unsettling horror, and gallows humor that has spawned legions of devoted readers and scores of horrified onlookers. You can't handle the truth!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.

DARK HORSE MANGA

DarkHorse.com

FOR READERS 18+
FOR MATURE READERS